



# CAG

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

## Newsletter

OCTOBER 2018

VOLUME XLII | ISSUE 5 | WWW.CAGTOWN.ORG

## CITY TAVERN CLUB HOSTS PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>

**G**et caught up on what's happening in the community at CAG's October 17th public safety meeting. CAG's expert panel will share updates on: CAG's patrol officer and camera surveillance programs, tips on personal safety and efforts to deter vehicle break-ins. Invite a friend, for all are welcome!



Chip Dent



Cmdr. Melvin Gresham



Ryan Geach

**7:00-7:30** - Reception to meet and greet CAG Patrol Officer Constantine Yao, SecTek

**7:30-7:50** - 2nd District MPD Commander Gresham

**7:50-8:10** - Ryan Geach, Special Agent, U.S. Department of Justice

**8:10 to 8:30** - Chip Dent, CAG Public Safety Program

## SMALL CELLS TOWN HALL

Joe Gibbons, ANC 2E Chair

**T**his past June, I received an email from CAG President Pamela Moore suggesting that the Small Cell issues deserve a community meeting. In Pamela's words, "community meetings that engage the public are of value when an issue has such a high degree of impact on our community." I immediately contacted Elsa Santoyo, Chair of CAG's Historic Preservation and Zoning Committee, for help. Together we set up planning meetings with ANC2E Commissioners, CAG Board members and the Georgetown BID. We contacted the City Tavern Club for the use of their beautiful and historic venue and club President Zana Metelski ensured that our Small Cell Town Hall would be ADA accessible and compliant for our entire community.

The purpose of our Small Cell Town Hall was to have an open and engaging discussion around "What's it going to look like and where will they be?" using the Draft Small Cell Design Guidelines issued by DDOT's Public Space Regulation Division.

We were fortunate to secure DC Interim Chief Technology Officer Barney Krucoff, to present the wifi component of Small Cells and a map of projected locations of the poles in Georgetown. Chief Krucoff brought in an actual wifi component to show the size and characteristics of the antennas. The unit with its 4 antennas is approximately 4 feet long. AT&T and Verizon were also invited to attend and participate.

DDOT itself will review all applications to ensure adherence to these guidelines. Any applications that are not consistent, as determined by DDOT, with these guidelines will require review and approval by the Public Space Committee and will include review and comment by ANC2E, Old Georgetown Board/Commission of Fine Arts, and Historic Preservation Office.

In addition we presented information from the DDOT Master License Agreement which all Small Cell providers must sign. A Small Cell provider may install an antenna pole no closer than ten (10) feet from the front of any door, balcony, or window of a residence. All street tree trimming requirements will be

handled by DDOT similar to the procedures followed by the other utility companies.

The Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) presentation explained that their antennas will be mounted with Small Cell providers. OCTO called it a "Ride Along" and this will allow for "One Touch" Cost Savings." This installation model will also be utilized with the DC Street Light Project with DDOT.

Chair Santoyo presented approximately nineteen slides describing what Small Cells are and how this new cellular technology and its installations will affect our historic streetscapes and view sheds.

AT&T and Verizon each explained that the procedures for issuing the public space permits will only allow for one Small Cell installation per carrier per block. This was a contentious point because if AT&T, for example, obtains a DDOT public space permit to install their Small Cell equipment on an historic block or alley what happens to the reception quality of the other carriers, such as Verizon. That question went unanswered. (Con't. page 5).

# “GOODNESS IS THE ONLY INVESTMENT THAT NEVER FAILS.”

- Henry David Thoreau

As a leader in Georgetown's real estate community, our firm proudly supports the Georgetown community. We are proud to sponsor the following events and organizations:

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Friends of Volta Park  
Georgetown House Tour (St. John's)  
Georgetown Jingle  
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# President's LETTER

Dear CAG Community,

**W**hat does this organization offer you? A fine example of what it offers was on display September 13 at the City Tavern Club. Thanks to ANC2E commissioners, the Citizens Association of Georgetown and the Georgetown Business Improvement District over 100 people were front and center hearing firsthand what DC Government's Small Cell Facilities Project means for us in Georgetown. (The day of this meeting the Wall Street Journal did an eight-page Special Report – Why Being First in 5G Matters. A worthwhile read.) This technology raises complicated issues – the number, size and location of cell towers, security issues, number of providers, timing of installation and actual start-up, and how does a community register its concerns and questions.

It is a big issue for our historic district and it is not going away. I want to give kudos

to ANC2E Chair Joe Gibbons and CAG Historic Preservation & Zoning Committee Chair Elsa Santoyo. They dug deep to offer key information and gave plenty of time for Q & A.

CAG is proud of its mission to inform and support the community on issues which directly impact our lives – public safety, preservation projects, airplane noise, trash & rats, the university community partnership, liquor licensing agreements with neighbors, public school issues and more.

All of this information is available to you every day at no charge. However, that is not to say it doesn't have a cost. If you have a copy of this newsletter in your hands right now or are viewing the newsletter on line, please consider a tax-deductible contribution, in addition to your annual membership dues. Our office budget is carefully allocated to provide the



best "bang for your buck". The newsletter is one of our biggest budget items, outside of programs like Public Safety and Trees. Our valuable advertisers cover a portion, but we would welcome your support for the printing and mailing of the newsletter. Contributing is easy, go to [www.cagtown.org](http://www.cagtown.org). Thank you for considering.

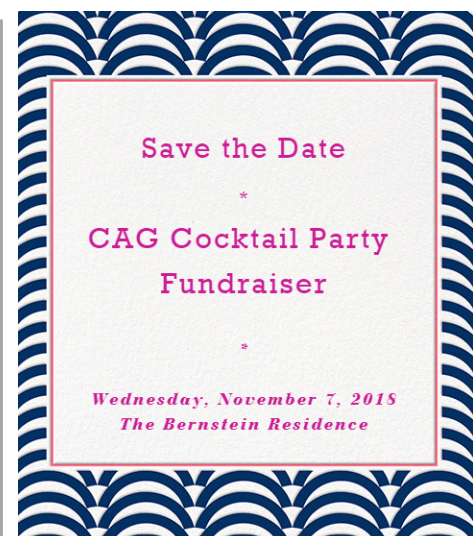
Pam Moore, PRESIDENT

## Community Remembers Betsy Cooley

Friends and family of CAG's former Executive Director Betsy Cooley gathered at Volta Park September 23rd to dedicate a bench in her memory. With thanks to Nancy Taylor Bubes & Jennifer Romm for organizing.. *Photo credit: Bill Starrels*



Above, from the left: Judy Bollinger (Betsy's twin), Allison Cooley (daughter), Finley Simons (grandson), Ben Simons, Kathy McGregor (sister.)



### UPCOMING CAG MEETINGS

#### Public Safety Meeting

Wednesday, October 17th  
City Tavern Club – 7pm.

#### C&O Canal Update

November, TBD

Watch for announcements and updates on [cagtown.org/meetings](http://cagtown.org/meetings) and [facebook.com/georgetowncitizens](https://facebook.com/georgetowncitizens)



# Skies Miraculously Clear for Trees Cocktail Party

Three loving neighbors gathered at Dumbarton House September 16th to support Trees for Georgetown's annual fundraiser with cocktails, a raw bar and beautiful music on the lawn. Committee chair Betsy Emes thanked attendees and donors on behalf of herself, Vice-chair Christi Cline, party co-chairs Jill Altman and Annemarie Ryan and the entire TFG committee.

*Pictures courtesy of The Georgetownner*



*Betsy Emes Chair, Cathy Kerkam*



*Betsy Rackley, Jack Evans, Jane Matz*



*Catalina Wilkinson and Jill Altman Co-chair*



*Jennifer Romm, Nancy Taylor Bubes, Jack Evans, Julie Chase*



*Annemarie Ryan Co-chair, Stephanie Bothwell, Cathy Kerkam*



*Christi Cline Vice chair, Mandi Howard*

## Fall Cocktail Party!

The Host Committee for CAG's fall fundraiser invites you to join us on November 7, 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the home of Lisa & Josh Bernstein for cocktails and entertainment to support CAG's vital programs. Space is very limited. For ticket information please contact the CAG office at 202-337-7313 or email [cagmail@cagtown.org](mailto:cagmail@cagtown.org).

### HOST COMMITTEE

Tina Alster  
Florence Auld & Frank Marshall  
The Avery Georgetown  
Cherry & Peter Baumbusch  
Nancy Taylor Bubes  
Kristin & John Cecchi  
Betsy & Ed Emes  
Jack Evans  
Stephanie & Larry Flanagan  
Colleen & John Girouard  
Cheryl & Dale Gray  
Pam & Richard Hinds

Ruth & Simon Jacobsen  
Lisa & Paul Koches  
Michelle & John Korsmo  
Bob Laycock & Tom Vogt  
Kristen & John Lever  
June & Jerry Libin  
Mimsy & Rusty Lindner  
Gwen Lohse & James Assey  
Leslie & Paul Maysak  
Eileen McGrath  
Pamla H. Moore  
Erin Mullen

Karen & Rick Murphy  
Lee Murphy  
Tina & Evan Nadler  
Tara & Rich Parker  
Jackie Pletcher & Charlie Eisen  
Becky Relic & Dan Pryor  
John D. Richardson  
Jennifer & David Romm  
Annemarie & Tom Ryan  
Amy Porter Stroh

*\*As of 10/1*

## SMALL CELLS (CONTINUED)

For a summary of “What’s Next”: Please check our website [www.smallcelltownhall.com](http://www.smallcelltownhall.com) for more information and to provide comments to ANC2E, CAG and the Georgetown BID.

The Town Hall meeting lasted approximately an hour and half. I was told by the City Tavern Club that halfway through the meeting they had to add more chairs. So it seems that Pamla was correct in her original assessment: our community wanted this opportunity to learn more and express their concerns.

Many thanks to the City Tavern Club for the generous use of their beautiful, historic venue.

## METROPOLITAN POLICE HONOR CAG BOARD MEMBER, JOHN RENTZEPIS, WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) honored John Rentzepis, Co-Chair of CAG’s Public Safety committee, at its annual awards banquet on September 26th. Samantha Nolan, MPD’s Citywide Neighborhood Watch Trainer noted: “MPD thanks John for disseminating public safety information and crime tips to the community to help them be safer, for providing the MPD with videos and photographic images of suspects that resulted in several case closures, and for being a great partner with the MPD.”

Several CAG block captains and members of staff were in attendance at the dinner held at Maggiano’s to show support for our long-serving board member and dedicated Public Safety Co-chair. Congratulations John!

CAG regrets that the following names were left off the most recent 2018 Public Safety donor list. Many thanks to our generous supporters:

E. Allan Wendt and Que D. Nguyen—Defender \$500  
Carl P. Leubsdorf—Defender \$500  
Arlene and Martin Klepper—Custodian \$325  
Ivy and Michael Pascal—Custodian \$325

## SMALL CELLS CONTACT INFORMATION

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# THE GREAT POTOMAC TUNNEL: COMING TO GEORGETOWN?

Walter Groszyk, *Chair, Infrastructure*

**T**he Potomac River storm water retention tunnel is intended to end most overflows from combined sewers into the Potomac River. Combined sewers convey both sanitary wastes from homes and businesses and runoff from rainstorms. When the volume of storm water entering a combined sewer exceeds the capacity of the sewer, some of the flow in the sewer, contaminated by sanitary waste, is diverted through an overflow pipe directly into the river. This pollutes the river and creates a health hazard.

A consent decree with the Federal government requires DC Water to end most of these overflows. To do this, DC Water will build a large diameter tunnel under the Potomac River that will collect the overflows, sending them to the Blue Plains Treatment Plant in Anacostia. DC Water and its consultants

have identified three potential sites for the northern end of the tunnel: near K Street, east of Rock Creek; just west of the Aqueduct Bridge; and near the Canal Road entrance to Georgetown University. A tunnel built under the Georgetown waterfront would have connections to combined sewers at several points: near the 2900 block of K Street; at Water Street and Potomac Street; and at the Aqueduct Bridge.

The connection points feature a large diameter drop-shaft, dropping 100 feet or more to the tunnel; diversion structure(s) near the surface; pipes and other structures. Several of the connection points are in the floodplain, and these locations would require some structures to be above grade to avoid flooding the tunnel.

CAG is a consulting party to a Federal review of the planned tunnel and the combined sewer connections to the tunnel. As part of

this review, CAG recently provided extensive comments to DC Water. In particular, CAG strongly objected to any siting in the Waterfront Park of the connection point for the principal combined sewer serving west Georgetown. CAG is also greatly concerned that construction of a connection to the tunnel at or near 2900 K Street would greatly disrupt traffic in lower Georgetown for many months. Finally, CAG questioned the need for the tunnel to proceed westward from Rock Creek.

DC Water and its consultants are presently preparing another iteration that will refine the tunnel route north of the Kennedy Center. CAG asked that this next draft assess alternatives that minimize or avoid the potential, highly adverse impacts (some of which would be permanent) of building a tunnel under lower Georgetown with several associated connection points.

## CAG WELCOMES NEW PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER

**C**AG invites you to meet our new patrol officer, Officer Yao Constantine Midodji, at the 7:00 pm reception before CAG's Public Safety meeting at the City Tavern Club, Wednesday, October 17th. CAG hired a new security firm, SecTek, this Fall. SecTek is a local, employee-owned security firm, which comes highly recommended by another neighborhood client, Georgetown University. Officer Yao patrols five nights a week (6:30 pm-2:00 am Wednesday, 6:30-2:30 Thursday, 6:30-3:00 am Friday and Saturday, 6:30-2:30 Sunday). Donors to CAG's Public Safety Program will have access to Officer Yao's cell phone number for escort requests or to give special attention to your property while you are on vacation. Please join us October 17th to welcome CAG's new officer!





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# RATS!

Patrick Clawson, *Trash and Rodents Chair*

**G**eorgetown has experienced an explosion in its rat population. The main reason is the recent mild winters. Let's hope for a really cold winter!

The Business Improvement District (BID) has a new contractor, Orkin, who has introduced more aggressive rat control techniques, especially dogs and dry ice in the burrows. Orkin has set out hundreds of bait stations in alleys. But the rats don't pay much attention to the bait if there is available tastier food from restaurants.

We need to do more to limit the rats' food supply, which is the main problem. One issue is that the most widely used trash containers have plastic lids which are close to useless because rats quickly chew through them – iron lids are a necessity. And many containers do not have good locks, which are necessary to keep lids from being lifted at night. This is an area where we need the BID's help identifying vendors of quality containers.

If you see a problem, please take a photo and send it to DC Health (the former Department of Health): Idris Ahmad (202-380-6893, [idris.ahmad@dc.gov](mailto:idris.ahmad@dc.gov)) or Jermaine Mathews ([jermaine.mathews@dc.gov](mailto:jermaine.mathews@dc.gov)). Unlike SWEEP, DC Health is prepared to issue violations based on photos sent to them by citizens, if the photo has a date/time stamp on it. And good news: DC Health is hiring four new inspectors.

The new DC budget starting October 1 has funding for businesses to buy trash compactors, and this time it covers the often-considerable cost

of electrical lines and concrete pads under the compactors. Compactors – properly used – would make a huge difference to the Georgetown rat problem.

We residents contribute to the rat problem when we leave trash out in plastic bags outside of cans, when we do not secure can lids tightly, when we do not inspect cans for holes (rats can squeeze through a hole one inch wide), or when we do not check the lovely ground cover in our yard for rat burrows. If you find a rat burrow in your yard, call DC Health or 311. In addition to poison, they may soon make available dry ice, which can kill rats as the carbon dioxide melts but is completely safe for pets.

For its part, the Department of Public Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP) has two inspectors for Ward 2: Sonya Street ([sonya.street@dc.gov](mailto:sonya.street@dc.gov)) and Wendy Cadell (202-438-8133; [wendy.cadell@dc.gov](mailto:wendy.cadell@dc.gov)). They are starting two campaigns. First is to get commercial trash bins out of public space, meaning out of the alleys and on to private property. A major reason for this push is that when the bins are left in the alley, the trash disposal company is often sloppy about where they leave the bins, and the SWEEP inspectors cannot identify who is the owner of any poorly cleaned / poorly maintained bin. The second is to get restaurants to elevate grease buckets off the ground at least a few inches. It is easier to clean under and around the bucket as well as to verify that the area is clean.

For more information about rat control, check CAG's website – updates coming.

## RODENTS 101 – GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

*Courtesy of Orkin Pest Control*

The proactive steps to take in the prevention of rodent attraction can be summed up in 2 words: GOOD HOUSEKEEPING. A few things to remember:

- Rodents are animals of prey – other animals eat them.
- Rodents are opportunistic feeders and will utilize whatever we leave for them.
- Rodents have an extremely flexible bone structure allowing them to get into very small openings (1/4 inch opening for a mouse, 1/2 inch opening for a rat).
- Rodents are good jumpers and climb very well.

One of the most important things to remember about rodents is because they are animals of prey, they will not survive well in open or clean, easily-visible areas, but instead thrive in areas that have a lot of cover and protection.

### JULIA DIAZ-ASPER

VICE PRESIDENT | THE DIAZ-ASPER GROUP



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## DCA Airplane Assessment Study Concludes

Richard Hinds, *DC Fair Skies*

The DC Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) hosted a public meeting September 20th to provide a summary of a two-year long assessment of aircraft noise on the District. Randy Waldeck, an acoustic engineer with CSDA Design Group, provided an overview of the just completed study. There were several important take-aways from the meeting:

- The changes the FAA made to flights paths of departing and arriving planes to Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA) in 2015 increased noise by around 2 dB in communities along the Potomac river including Georgetown to the low 60's dB, the level of loud speech. The resulting total noise when averaged over a long period did not meet the FAA's 65 dB DNL (Day Night Level) standard of when noise is considered to have a significant impact. While an individual plane may sound like a rock band going overhead and interfere with speech and sleep it is the average dB per day over a year that the FAA measures.
- The school measurements showed that several class rooms did not meet ANSI classroom noise criteria established to ensure exterior noise did not interfere with a good learning environment. Noisy class rooms have been shown to impede learning.
- The residential measurements showed that the sound levels in bedrooms were high enough to awaken 12-33% of the population, depending on location. Randy explained that the results

are a probability percentage because sound sleepers might not be awakened by the noise levels in those residences, while light sleepers might be.

- Approximately 400 flights per day from DCA produce noise in northwest DC at or above the 65 dB level which can interfere with normal speech and hearing outside.
- The FAA has performed an extensive study of aircraft noise, its impact on communities, and the adequacy of the current 65 dB DNL standard. The study was completed two years ago but has not been released by the FAA. If released it may require the FAA to reevaluate its 65dB DNL standard.
- The study contains a number of suggestions for noise mitigation including revising the North Flow departure, reducing North Flow flights from nearly 70% to 50%, climbing faster after departure, and revising approach procedures in South flow.
- Marcio Duffles, the Ward Three Representative to the DCA Working Group, and ANC2E commissioner Rick Murphy, the Ward Two Representative, explained the purpose and activities of the Working Group. Marcio mentioned that considerable progress had been made on the South Flow approach, but the recent suit by the state of Maryland had caused progress to halt. Rick mentioned that the Working Group can only make recommendations to the FAA and a recommendation to change the North Flow departure flight path had received no response from the FAA to date.



# GETTING THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE

Edith Schafer

Some of us think we live in an outpost. We are used to feeling that this city is the center of the world and yet we know that it really isn't, not any more than any place else. We are sure it is not a Bedouin encampment, because there are few camels, but maybe it's just another large city by the bend in a river.

Hold that thought for a minute.

My friend, who is from Uruguay, told me that she would come see me when she got back from Mauritania. In the quiet suburb where I grew up people didn't say things like that and it would have astonished everyone if they had. So maybe we have grown up, certainly we have extended our horizons. Mauritania? Do you even know where it is? Did you know that, even though slavery was abolished there 40 years ago, people are still being bought and sold and given away as gifts.

Never mind. Back to our local concerns. Last year I was on a tear about leaf blowers: that they are destroying our quality of life. This year it's messed up sidewalks. In my block alone there are four damaged places where the bricks are either missing altogether or standing on their sides. Broken limbs anyone? It's one thing to live in an historic neighborhood and something else again to live in one that is not maintained.

As I write this I am sure the leaf blower squads are massing on our frontiers. I leave it to you to decide which is the more annoying: constant leaf blowing or pedestrian-tripping bricks.



Stay Informed. Post Recommendations.

## Join the Georgetown Forum Today!

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The GeorgetownForum is a listserv/website where residents and community leaders can seek and exchange information on safety, local events, local businesses and services. Please feel free to add to our links page, upload documents or files, or create new polls on the site.

## CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN CAG MEMBERSHIP DUES

*- CAG dues are fully tax deductible -*

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CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

**Now-  
Nov 18**

**Maria & Alberto De La Cruz Art Gallery** Jeffery Gibson, an acclaimed Choctaw-Cherokee artist, will present new work, including paintings on rawhide, an installation, and a performance piece. Gallery Hours: Wed – Sat: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm; Sun: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Georgetown University – 3535 Prospect Street NW

**Thur Oct  
18**

**Dumbarton at Dusk: Fall Festival to Benefit the Red Cross** – Dumbarton House – 5:30 – 8:00pm. Tour the museum after hours and experience our grounds in a different light. Each Dumbarton at Dusk will include a cash bar, food, music, and pop-up history activities to enhance Dumbarton House's collections.

**Sun Oct 21**

**The Handel and Haydn Society with Margot Rood**, Soprano – 5 pm – St. John's Episcopal Church.

**Tues Oct  
23**

**Chamber Music Concert (free)** – Dumbarton House – 12:00 – 1:00 pm. Join us Tuesday at noon for a free chamber music concert presented by the Friday Morning Music Club!

**Fri Oct 26**

**Outdoor Movie Night: Pride and Prejudice and Zombies** – Dumbarton House 5:30pm

**Sat Oct 27**

**Trick or Treat at Tudor Place** – 10am–1 pm. Explore the Tudor Place garden as the seasons change, and trick or treat throughout the site.

**Sat Oct 27**

**Georgetown Walking Tour: Spirits of Georgetown.** Dumbarton House 6pm – 8pm. Dwane Starlin, a member of the Guild of Professional Tour Guides, leads you on an evening tour of historic Georgetown. Discover the community's rich past and mysterious happenings from past to present.

**Sat Oct 27**

**Family Day at Dumbarton Oaks** – 2:00-4:00 pm. Family Day is a great opportunity for children of all ages to learn about our Juggling the Middle Ages exhibition through hands-on activities, including juggling lessons for kids!

## PLANNING AHEAD

**Sun Nov 11**

**Veterans Day: Generations of Service Tours** – Tudor Place. In honor of Veterans Day, guided house tours focus on stories and artifacts recalling six generations of an American family in wartime, abroad and at home. Military families and veterans tour free.

**Sat Nov 24**

**Georgetown Walking Tour: Kennedy's Georgetown** – 12 pm. Dumbarton House. Stroll through Georgetown with Dwane Starlin, member of the Guild of Professional Tour Guides. Walk to the homes and neighborhood spots frequented by President Kennedy and Jackie during their years in Washington. See where the couple became engaged, their Georgetown home, and where Jackie stayed after JFK's assassination in 1963.

**Fri Nov 30**

**Holidays Through History** – 5:30 pm, Dumbarton House, Anderson House, The Woodrow Wilson House. Enjoy tours of the three festively decorated historic houses while enjoying activities, music, food and sample historic cocktails unique to each site.

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