



The District of Columbia  
Office of Planning  
Anita Cozart, Director



# Commemorate DC Commemorative Works Committee

September 6, 2024

\*\*\* WE ARE WASHINGTON \*\*\*  
GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

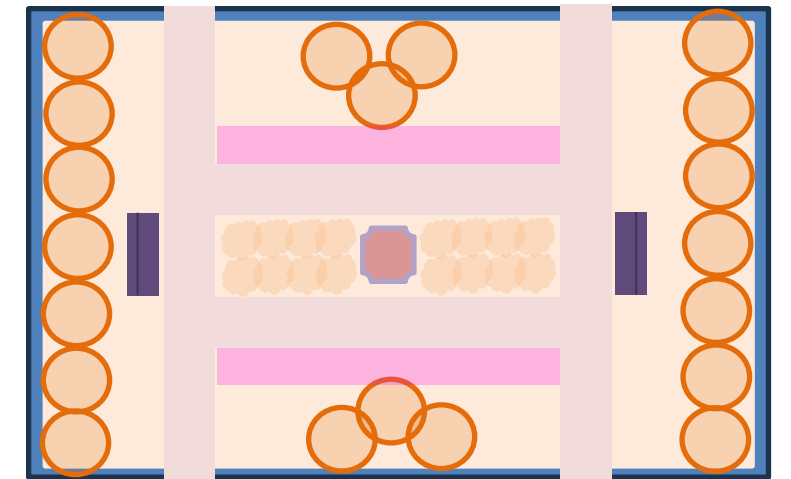
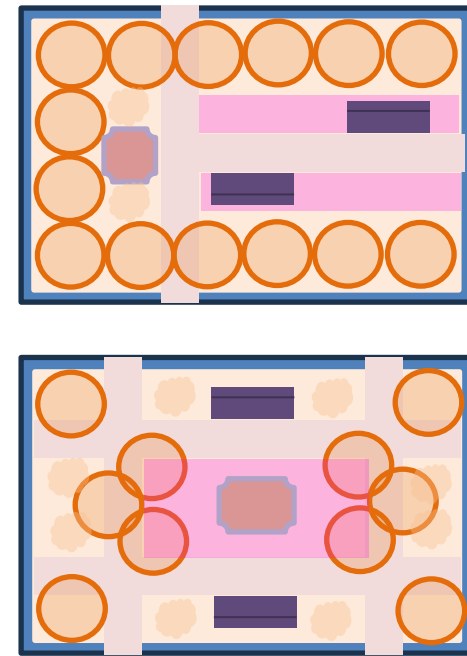
# Agenda



1. Introductions
2. Project Overview and Background
3. Review and Discussion of Commemorative Concepts
  - Ward 4: DC Caribbean Carnival
  - Ward 5: Enslaved People Who Built the U.S. Capitol
  - Ward 7: Black Entrepreneurs of Deanwood
  - Ward 8: Summer Youth Employment Program
4. Next Steps

# Commemorate DC

## Concept Development and Review



**Visioning**  
*Design Team and Community*

**Two Concepts for Each Site**  
*Design Team and Community*

**Final Concept**  
*Design Team and Community*

Community Input  
Through Project Website

Public Meetings  
June 22 (Wards 4 & 5) and July 13  
(Wards 7 & 8)

CWC Review  
September 6

September 2024

# Commemorative Sites



# Subjects with Sites

Caribbean  
Carnival  
Georgia Avenue  
(Ward 4)



Black  
Entrepreneurs of  
Deanwood  
Nannie Helen  
Burroughs Avenue  
(Ward 7)



Enslaved People  
who Built the US  
Capitol  
Bladensburg  
Road  
(Ward 5)



Marion Barry &  
Summer Youth  
Employment  
Program  
MLK Jr Ave SE &  
Malcolm X Ave SE  
(Ward 8)





# Caribbean Carnival

Ward 4

## Site Design Concepts

August 2024

**Miriam Gusevich, Artist**



**AECOM**



# Caribbean Carnival

Ward 4

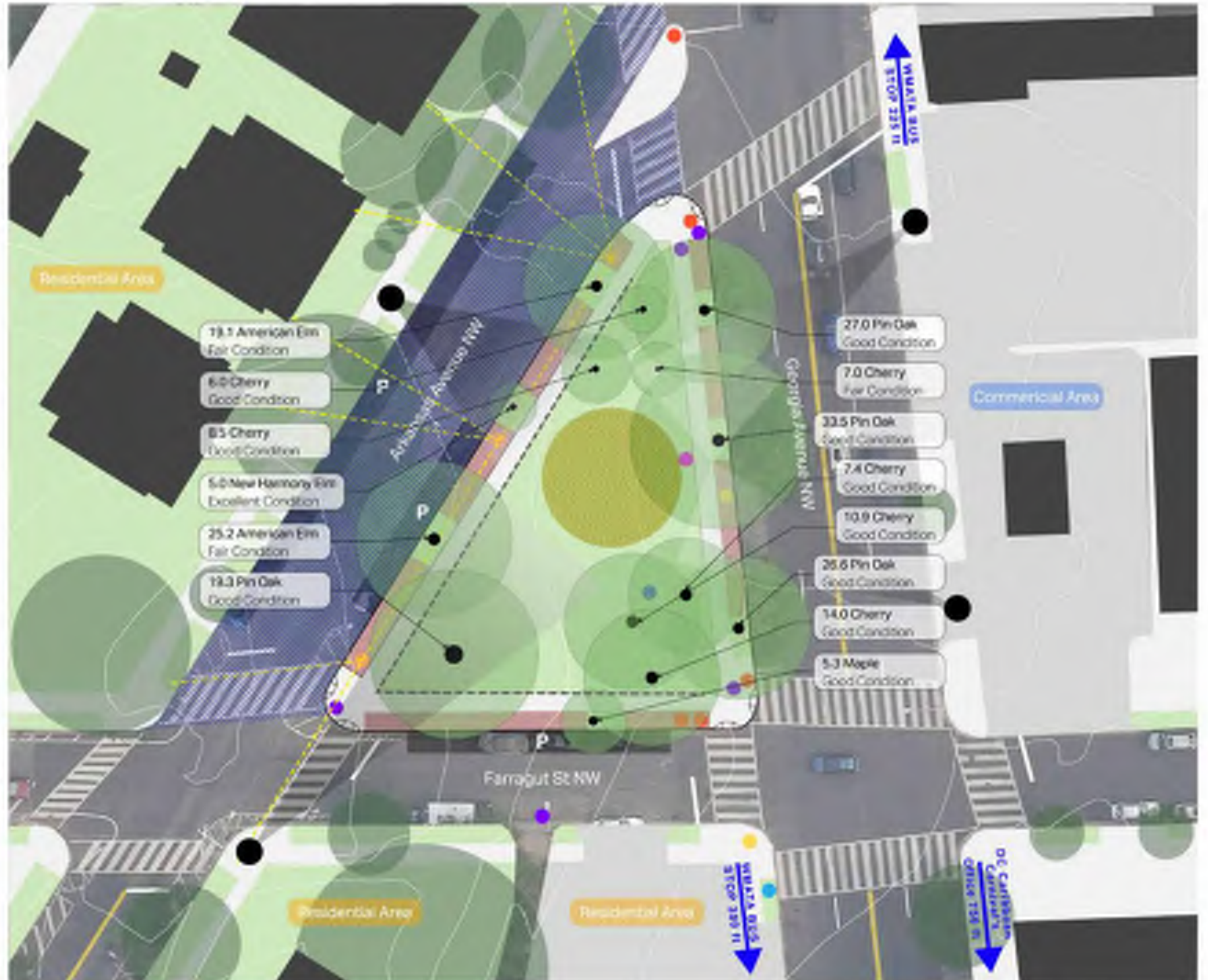
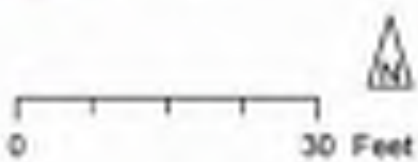
- Triangle park bound by Arkansas Avenue and Georgia Avenues NW and Farragut St NW
- Site within DPR jurisdiction and within historic location of DC's Caribbean Carnival Festival and traditional center of Caribbean culture within DC
- Part of gateway corridor to the city and an entrance of a parkway leading into Rock Creek Park



# Site Analysis

Ward 4

- Electrical Man Hole
- P&S Man Hole
- Stop Light
- Wooden Pole
- Cobra Head Light Pole
- Fire Hydrant
- Abandoned Manhole
- Utility Box
- Primary Vehicular Viewsheds
- Commemorative Focus Area
- Special Event space Expansion
- Brick Paving
- Overhead Utility Line
- 2ft Topo Contours
- Right of Way
- Concrete Half Round Curb
- Curb Ramp
- On-Street Parking
- Existing Tree





# Visioning Workshop

Ward 4

## Desired Visitor Experiences

- Gather
- Encounter a playful and celebratory space
- Learn history of DC Caribbean Carnival
- Feel welcomed

## Desired Physical Representation

- Music (including steel drums)
- Costumes
- Moko Jumbies
- Color
- Sound
- Dance
- Gathering space

## Desired Themes

- Creativity and artistry of carnival costumes, music, and dance
- Resilience to use limited resources to create carnival arts



# Moko Jumbie Parade: Site Plan

Ward 4

- A series of Moko Jumbie sculptures represents six basic dance moves
- Sculptures are purposely placed to face various directions to embody a parade
- Proposed glowing path allows people to walk under or next to the sculptures to be part of the parade
- Mixed-color paving is inspired by bright colors of Caribbean Carnival
- Color and material of the sculptures are to be determined
- Seating reminiscent of steel drums, grouped along pathways, offers gathering opportunities
- Adds three trees along southern edge of site and removes three existing cherry trees throughout site



# Moko Jumbie Parade: Site Perspective

Ward 4



# Moko Jumbie Parade: Artwork Inspiration Images - Moko Jumbie Steps

Ward 4



# Queen of the Caribbean Sea: Site Plan

Ward 4

- One large Moko Jumbie sculpture, the Queen, stands in the oval gathering space with trees as a backdrop
- Sculpture is sized to be visible from Georgia Avenue and adjacent neighborhood
- Seat walls define the central open space where interpretive signage could be integrated to tell visitors about the history of Caribbean Carnival
- Raised stage offers performance area
- Color and material of the sculpture are to be determined
- The site could serve as a starting point of future DC Caribbean Carnival Parade
- Places two trees at southern edge of site to serve as a backdrop and removes three existing cherry trees throughout the site



# Queen of the Caribbean Sea: Site Perspective

Ward 4



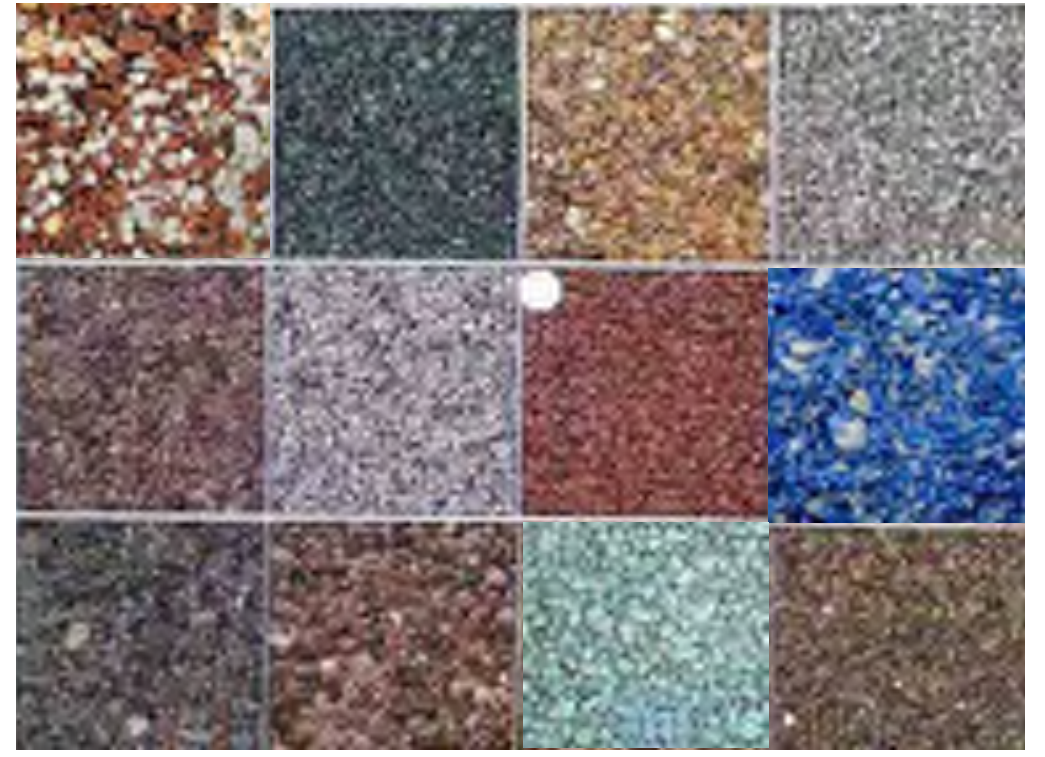
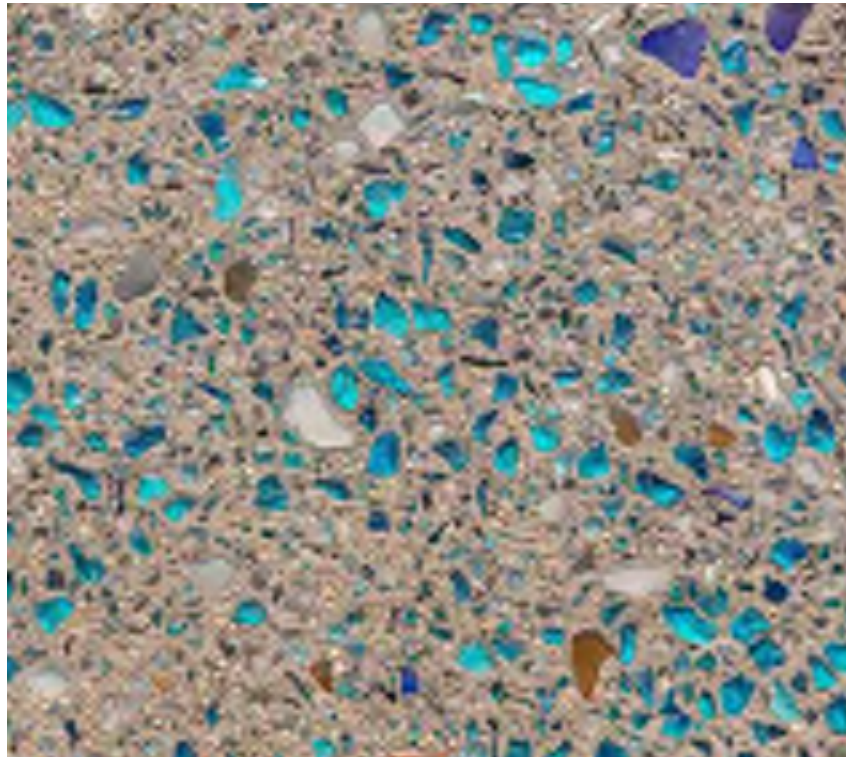
# Queen of the Caribbean Sea: Artwork Inspiration Images - Moko Jumbie Queen

Ward 4



# Precedent Images - Paving Material Palette and Seating

Ward 4



Resin path with crushed stone or recycled glass concrete paving in various colors: Blue, Gold, Red, Green etc.



Glow-in-the-dark Path: Seeded with colorful fluorescent luminous stones representing colorful Caribbean Carnival



Seat wall with interpretive feature



Steel pan drum inspired seating top



# Design Workshop: Initial Concepts Public Input

Ward 4

## Concept A

- **Liked**
  - Greenery
  - Sculptures
- **Requested**
  - Water feature
- **Concerns**
  - Visitor interaction with busy corridor

## Concept B

- **Liked**
  - Seating that serves as a gathering space
  - Stage
- **Requested**
  - Water feature
- **Concerns**
  - Visitor interaction with busy corridor
  - Lack of greenery



# Committee Discussion

Joe Coleman

Otto Condon

Alex Padro

Rohulamin Quander

Neville Waters

Marnique Heath

Nick Kushner

Kerry Kennedy

Anita Cozart

**1. How do you think these designs respond to the subject matter?**

**2. What resonates most with you?**

**3. What feedback would you offer to prepare for a final review?**





# Memorial to Enslaved People Who Built the U.S. Capitol

Ward 5

**Site Design Concepts**

August 2024

**Michael Janis, Artist**



**AECOM**



# Memorial to the Enslaved People Who Built the U.S. Capitol

- Triangle Park– Bladensburg Road and Douglas Street NE
- One of three adjacent DPR sites
- Adjacent to location of foundry where enslaved laborer Philip Reid worked on Statue of Freedom
- Aligns with DPR resilient small parks strategy



# Site Analysis

Ward 5



# Visioning Workshop

Ward 5

## Desired Visitor Experiences

- Learn about history
- Sit and reflect
- Play and celebrate
- Connect with nature

## Desired Physical Representation

- Interactive elements
- Seating for reflection
- An eye-catching design
- Components that are consistent with the neighborhood's industrial context

## Desired Themes

- Breaking of chains
- Inclusion of the Capitol
- Uplifting yet reverent content featuring the accomplishments of the enslaved people and their descendents



# Legacy Dome: Site Plan

Ward 5

- Colored glass dome sculpture forms centerpiece of memorial
- Sculpture allows for interaction and engagement. Visitors can walk around and under the colored light that filters through the sculpture
- Plaza offers gathering space for community
- Special paving patterns and signage offer interpretation of memorial
- New native plantings and trees soften the edge of the park facing the Metrobus depot and preserve the largest trees on the site
- Open space panel offers park setting
- Benches offer seating at memorial feature, as well as under shade tree
- Low-impact development (LID) areas help manage stormwater





# Legacy Dome: Artwork

Ward 5

- Supporting columns tell story of individual enslaved workers with colorful translucent glass
- Dichroic glass dome creates abstraction of U.S. Capitol
- The form serves as a bridge, linking the sacrifices of the past with the aspirations of the present and future
- The artwork will define the entry towards the U.S. Capitol and create a lasting impact on the community and beyond



# Legacy Dome: Materials

Ward 5

## Paving

- Light grey granite pavers provide a canvas to receive colored light that is filtered through the sculpture
- Large scale etching of a simplified version of an early elevational drawing of the U.S. Capitol will be oriented to the northwest of the of the sculpture



## Plantings

- New native shade tree grove frames the sculpture and offers shade throughout the day over the plaza.
- Tree species selected from heritage native trees that currently surround the capitol
- Native grasses and colorful perennials define the bioretention planters along the back of curb

### Native Trees

White Oak  
American Elm  
American Linden  
American Beech

### Native Perennials

Monarda  
Lobelia  
Foamflower  
Golden Groundsel  
Sensitive Fern

### Native Grasses

Carex  
Side Oats Gramma  
Little Bluestem



# Freedom Portal: Site Plan

Ward 5

- Filtered glass arch forms centerpiece of memorial
- Visitors can walk around and under the colored light that passes through the sculpture
- Plaza offers gathering space for community
- New plantings soften the edge of the park facing the Metrobus depot and maintain largest trees at the site



# Freedom Portal: Artwork

Ward 5

- Arch columns tell story of individual enslaved workers with colorful translucent glass
- Arch represents abstraction of U.S. Capitol
- Memorial's form represents progress and hope for the future, a contemporary approach of a classical form
- Arch honors the legacy of the Enslaved Workers in a bold and dynamic way, acknowledging the immense contributions and sacrifices of these individuals but also inspiring future generations to continue striving for justice and equality.



# Freedom Portal: Materials

Ward 5

## Paving

- Etched names of the 122+ known enslaved workers who built the Capitol building arrayed in a field across the central plaza
- Light grey granite pavers provide a canvas for colored light filtered from the dome. The colored light will highlight different etched names as the sun moves throughout the day and year.



## Plantings

- New native shade tree grove frames the sculpture and offers shade throughout the day over the plaza.
- Tree species selected from heritage native trees that currently surround the capitol
- An open ring of native grasses and colorful perennials define the bioretention edge of the plaza

### Native Trees

White Oak  
American Elm  
American Linden  
American Beech

### Native Perennials

Monarda  
Lobelia  
Foamflower  
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Sensitive Fern

### Native Grasses

Carex  
Side Oats Gramma  
Little Bluestem



# Both Concepts: Materials

Ward 5



- Glass used in outdoor settings, including cast glass at Library of Congress (left) and artwork (below)
- Glass provides unique contrast between light and weight of theme
- Proposed materials are durable, easily maintained, and easily replaced if damaged



# Both Concepts: Visitor Experience Precedents

Ward 5

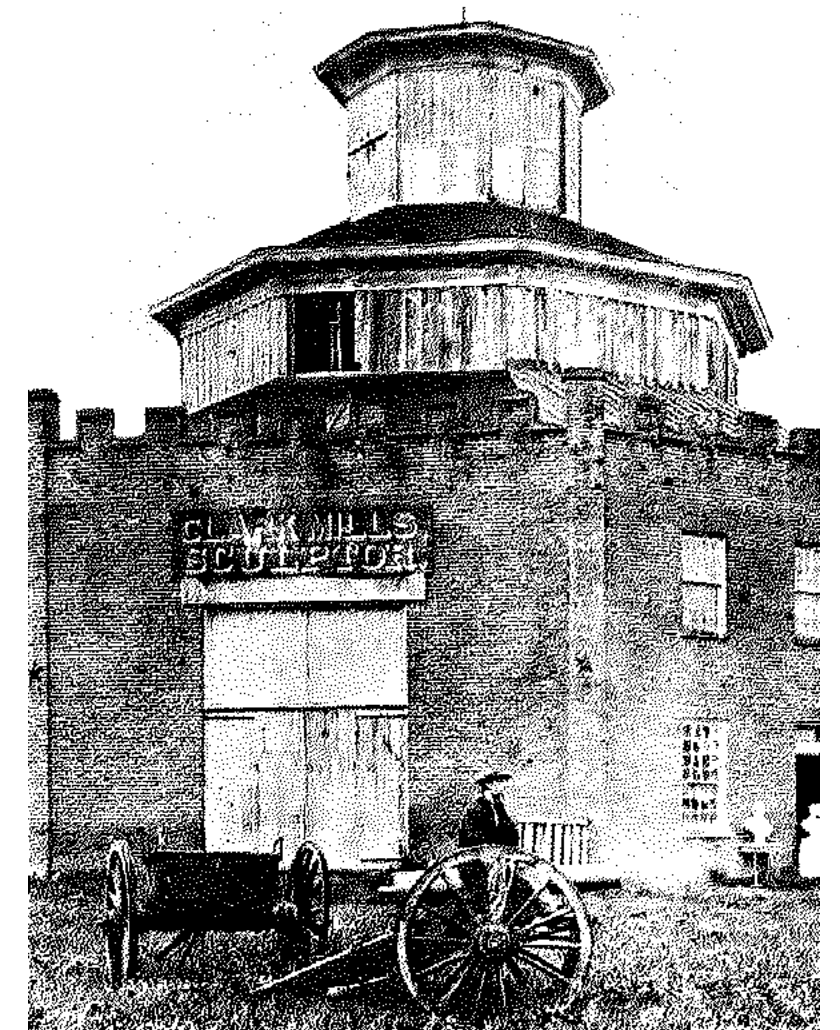
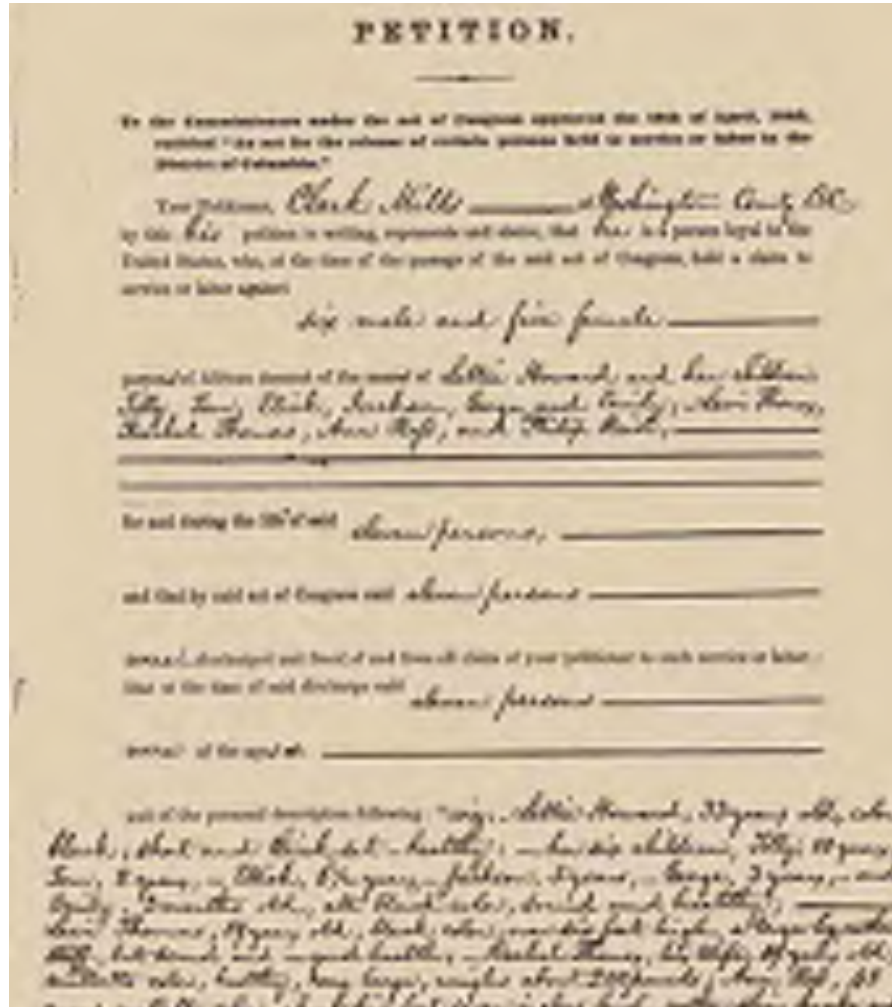


- Colorful glass artwork contrasts to industrial site context
- Light patterns created by the artwork make the space inviting and ever-changing, encouraging repeated visits and ongoing community use
- Plaza and sculpture offer place for people to gather and rally
- Sculptures and landscape create a strong and appealing space along a busy thoroughfare to invite investigation



# Both Concepts: Memorial Artwork Inspiration

Ward 5



- Images show the harsh reality of the conditions of the enslaved workers
- Archive research identifies the roles of individuals, including Philip Reid (shown center)
- Adaptation of historic images offers opportunities to tell individual stories
- Primary narrative glass artwork to be prepared by Michael Janis





# Both Concepts: Community Engagement Opportunities

Ward 5



Artist Michael Janis leading community workshops

- Colorful glass panels support narrative
- Glass infill panels to be created via series of workshops held at nearby Washington Glass School
- Approach provides opportunity for public engagement to invest emotionally in the project
- Balance of color, form and truthful narrative brings unique and powerful dimension to project
- Story of the enslaved workers remains a living part of the community's conscience
- Artwork will define the entry towards the Capitol and create a lasting impact on the community and beyond



# Design Workshop: Initial Concepts Public Input

Ward 5

## Concept A

### • Liked

- Dome sculpture
- Visually striking from multiple directions
- Experience of walking through it

### • Requested

- More focus on Philip Reid and enslaved people who worked at the foundry

### • Concerns

- Lack of reverence for topic

## Concept B

### • Liked

- Adaptation of existing site layout
- Trees and shade cover
- Lack of shelter

### • Requested

- More focus on Philip Reid and enslaved people who worked at the foundry

### • Concerns

- Lack of reverence for topic



# Committee Discussion

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Alex Padro

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Rohulamin Quander

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