

Metro Memorial Park  
Photo Credit: Hunt Laudi Studio

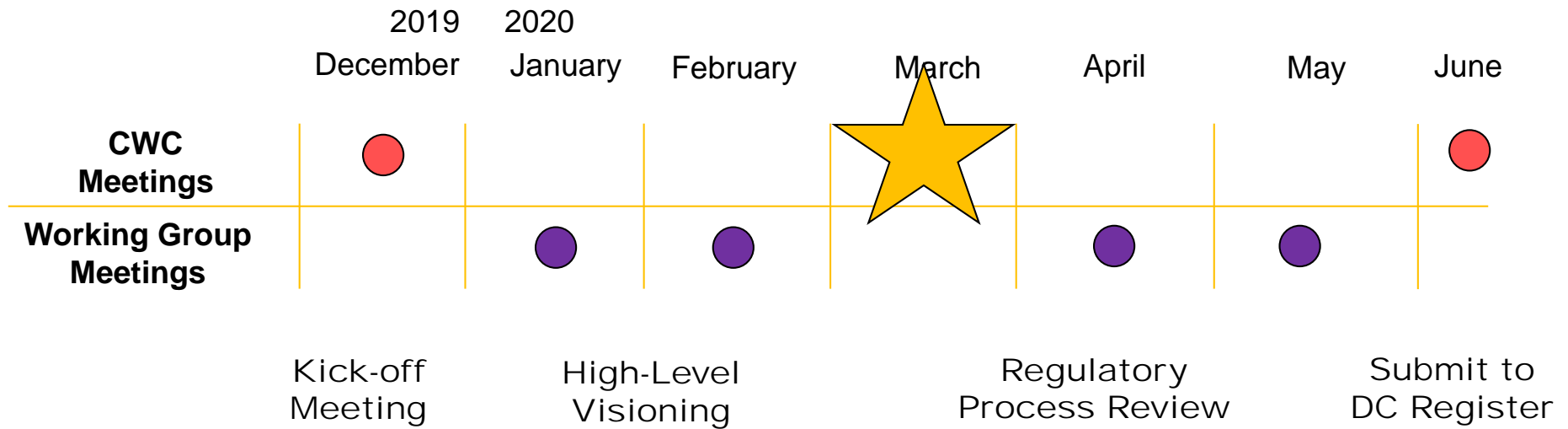


# Commemorative Works Committee High-Level Visioning

March 27, 2020



District of Columbia  
Office of Planning





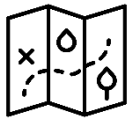
# Agenda

1. Meeting Outcomes
  2. Define High Level Principles
  3. Visioning:
    - Location Strategy
    - Commemoration Strategy
  5. Discussion
  6. Next Steps (schedule, next meeting, etc.)
-



# Meeting Outcomes

Discussion and agreement on approaches to:



Location Strategy



Commemoration Strategy



# High-Level DRAFT Principles

Promote District Commemorative Works by:

- Affirming our civic identity, recognizing and educating residents about our community heritage, and acknowledging under-represented communities and erased histories as one way to address cultural displacement;
  - Engaging and soliciting community input for what is commemorated;
  - Using traditional, diverse and innovative ways to highlight community heritage (ie. tactical urbanism, creative placemaking, temporary urbanism, community celebrations, etc.);
  - Locating commemorative works through thoughtful community planning and civic projects that identify places appropriate for the person, place, or event; and,
  - Coordinating with other events, initiatives and projects (ie. agency work plans, federal initiatives, etc.).
-



# Location Strategy





# Develop “Memorials and Museums Master Plan Lite” for DC Commemorative Works



Define Location Concepts

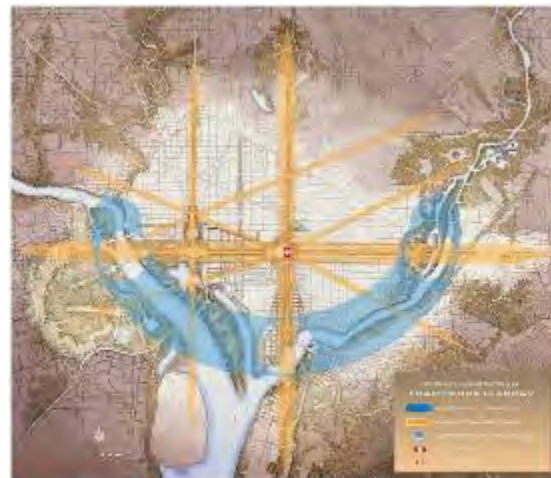


Figure 2: The Transmittal Diagram illustrating planning considerations for defining the location of future new public design in the District of Columbia.

Apply to City Plan



Identify Specific Sites



## 3 Concepts

1. Ceremonial Corridors
2. Community Spaces
3. Shared Spaces

Potential Places in the City Plan

Small Parks and Open Spaces Example

---





# 1. Ceremonial Corridors – Universal Experiences

Examples: World War II, 9/11, Public Figures of City-wide Importance, National Events

## Gateway Corridors



- MacArthur Boulevard
- 16<sup>th</sup> Street
- Rhode Island Avenue
- East Capitol Street

## Primary/Secondary Avenues



- Massachusetts Avenue
- New Hampshire Avenue
- Maryland Avenue

## Primary/Secondary Long-Established Roads



- Wisconsin Avenue
- Georgia Avenue
- Benning Road
- Martin Luther King Boulevard

## Primary/Secondary Parkways



- Nebraska Avenue
- South Dakota Avenue
- Minnesota Avenue
- Alabama Avenue

Formal



Informal



## 2. Community Spaces – Place Based Cultural Identities

Examples: Jazz on U Street, Jewish History in Petworth, Central American Culture in Adams Morgan

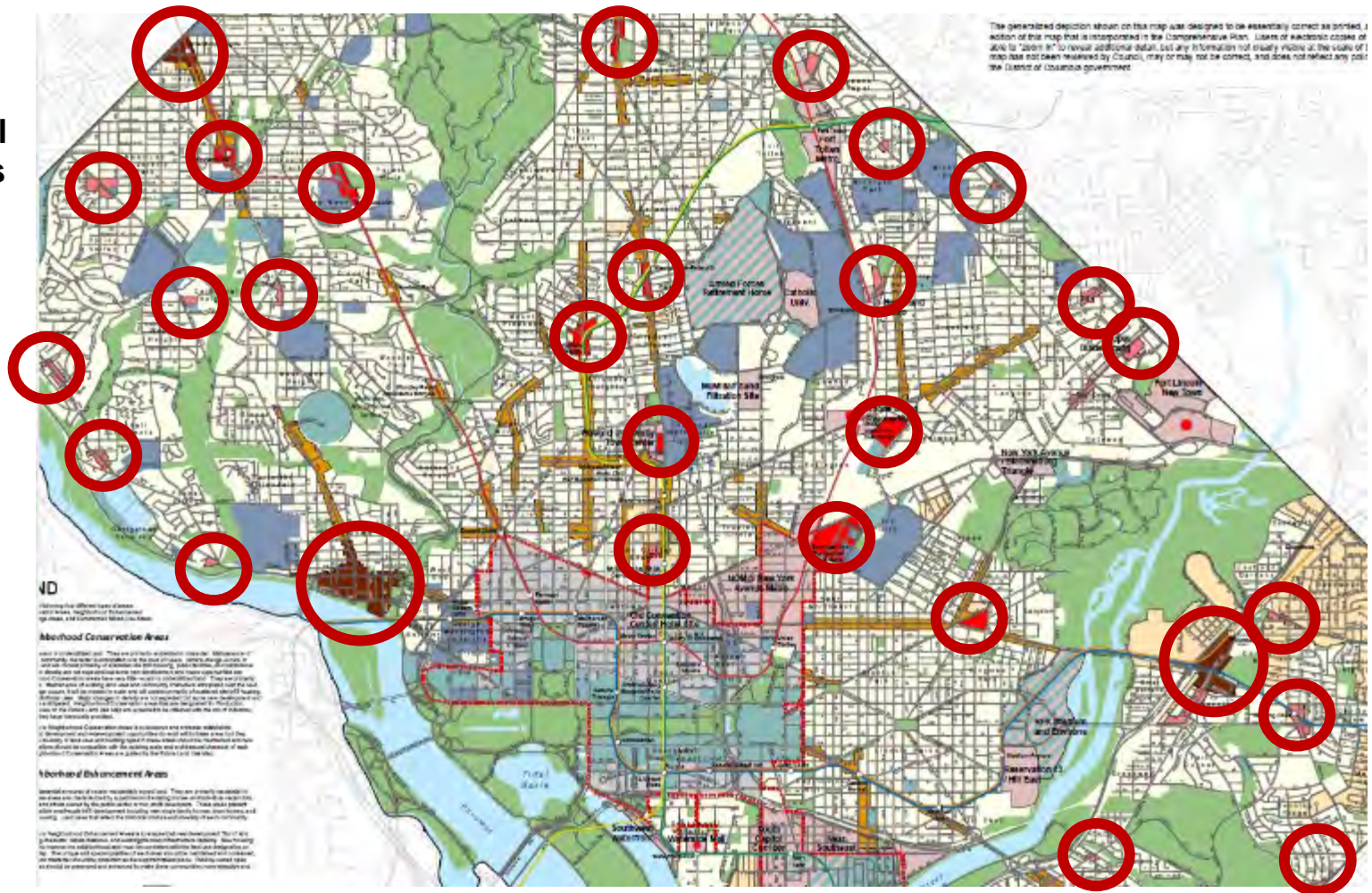
### Comprehensive Plan Commercial Mixed-Use Areas

Regional  
Centers

Multi-  
Neighborhood  
Centers

Neighborhood  
Commercial  
Centers

Main Street  
Mixed-Use  
Corridors



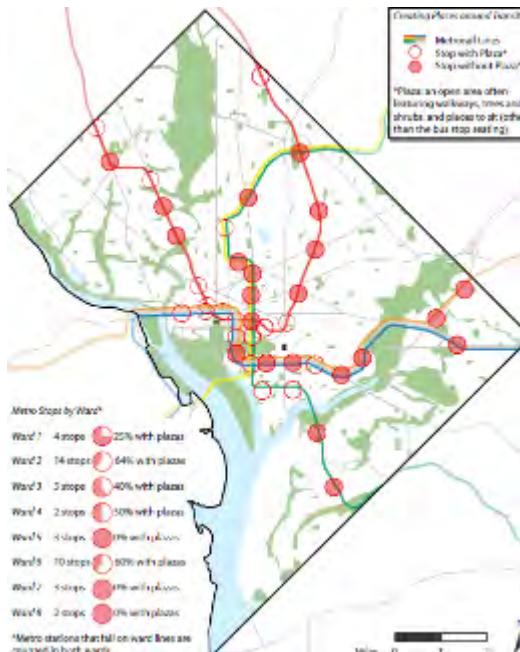




### 3. Shared Spaces – DC Cultural Connections

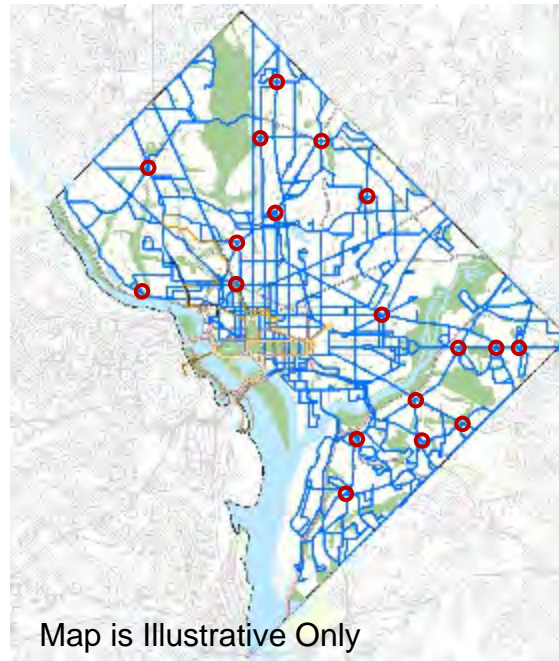
Examples: Go-go Music, Ben's Chili Bowl, Streetcars, Sports Teams

#### High Ridership Metro Lines + Stations w/ and w/out Plazas



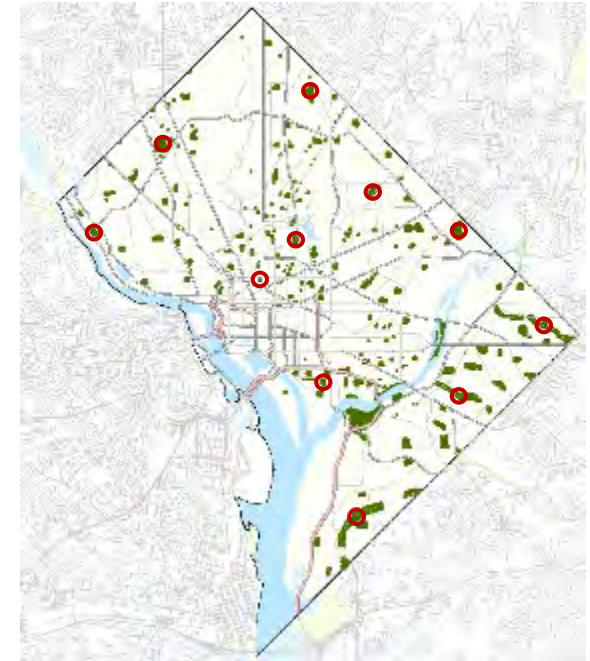
- Tenley Town
- Petworth
- Rhode Island Avenue
- Benning Road
- Alabama Avenue

#### High Ridership Bus Line + Stop Junctions



- 14<sup>th</sup> and Colorado NW
- Skyland
- Anacostia Metro Station

#### Public Parks and Open Spaces



- Palisades Recreation Center
- Takoma Recreation Center
- Turkey Thicket Recreation Center
- Pope Branch Park
- Oxon Run Park



## Potential Places in the City Plan



Small Park and Open Spaces



Streets and Sidewalks



Civic Buildings and Spaces



Public Parks, Waterfronts, and Plazas

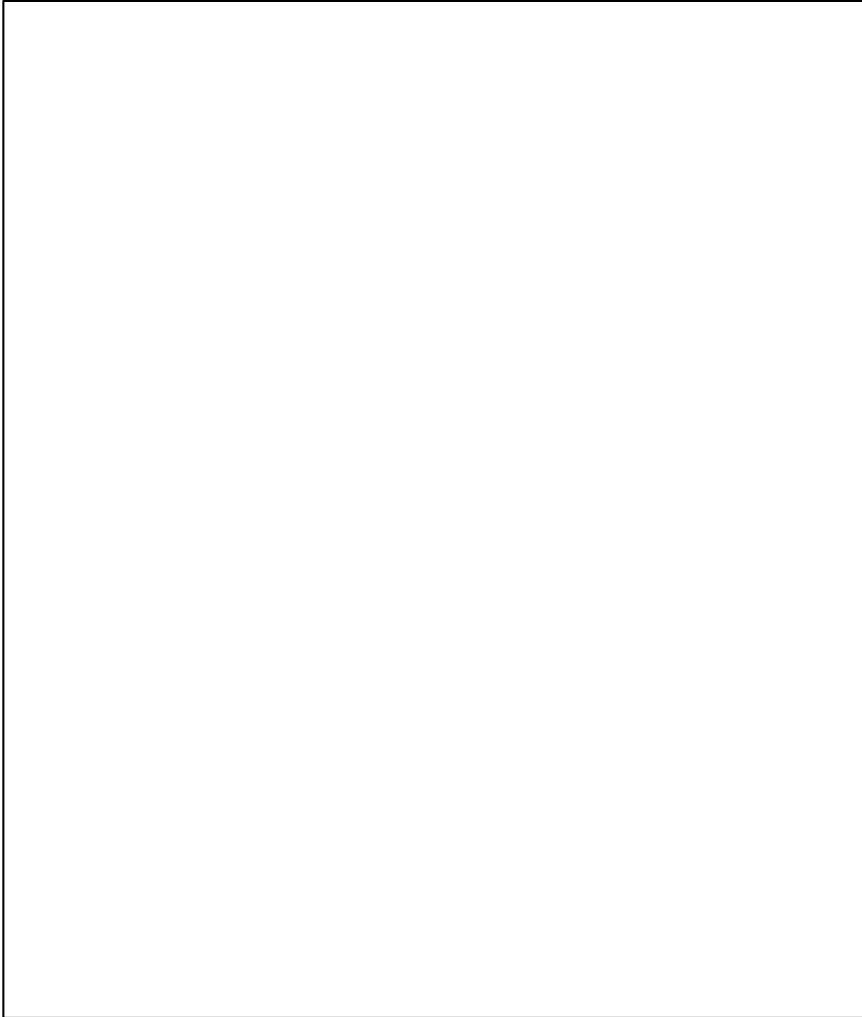


Private Property

---



## Example: Small Parks and Open Space Inventory



- Current inventory includes 1,248 District-controlled, individual small parks and green spaces
- All-inclusive:
  - Triangle Parks
  - Green circles in cul-de-sacs;
  - Medians (ie. 16th Street NW);
  - Green areas associated with freeways (clover leafs, medians, and other associated spaces);
  - Abandoned streetcar right-of-way;
  - Paper streets; and,
  - Small vacant properties in District ownership.
- Jurisdiction based on OP's assessment:
  - DDOT (1,141)
  - DPR (104)
  - DGS (3)





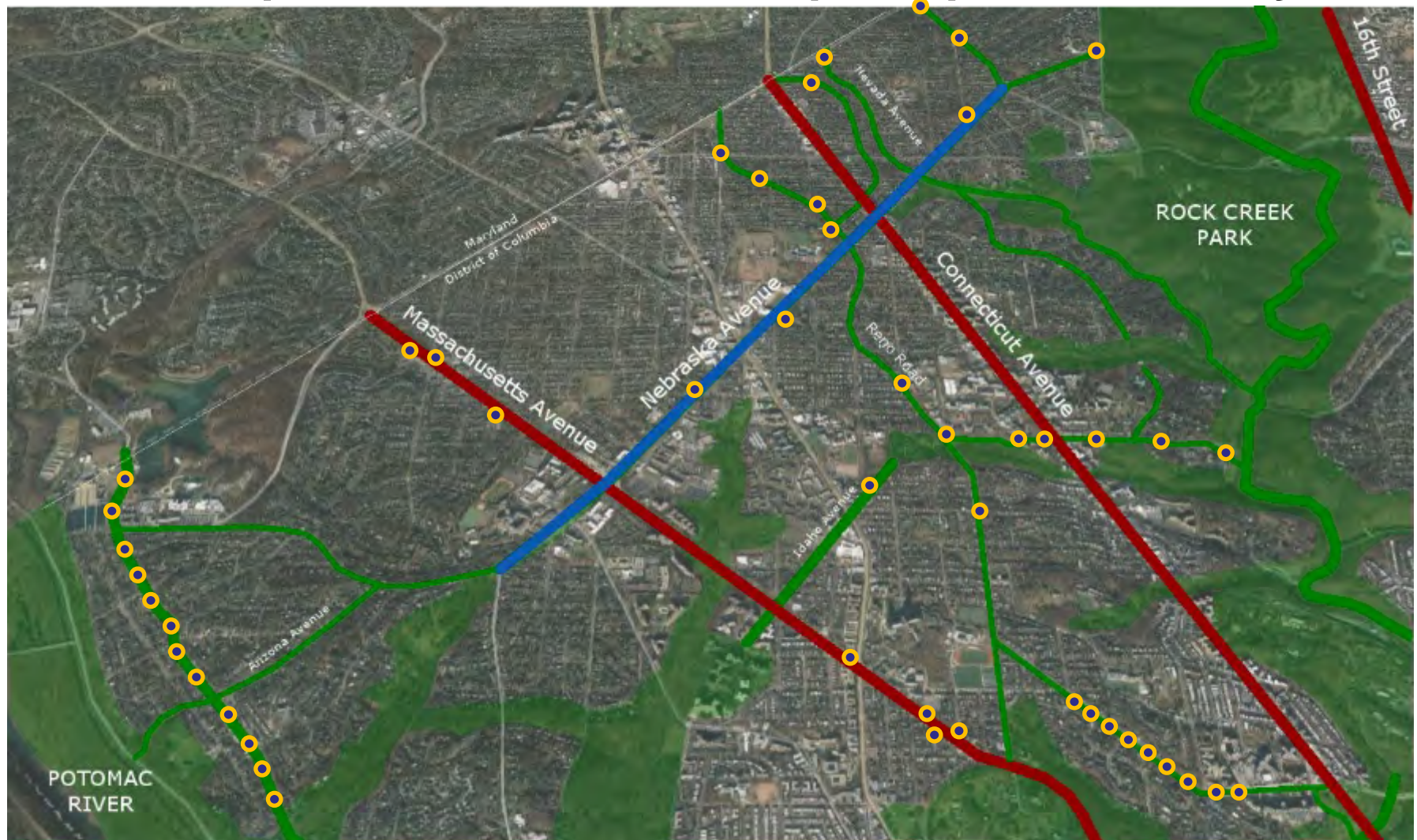
## Example: Small Parks and Open Space Inventory







## Example: Small Parks and Open Space Inventory





# Commemoration Strategy

---





Build on DC Initiatives

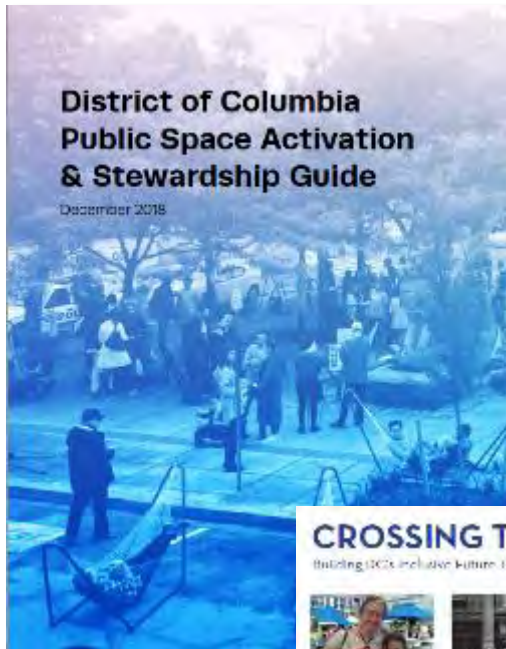
Precedents & Innovative Ideas

Implementation





# Build on DC Initiatives





# Precedents

## Memory City - Projections of Montreal's History, *Old Montreal*

375<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
city's founding

Multimedia  
exhibition creating a  
living tribute to the  
past

18 installations  
bringing significant  
moment of history to  
life







# Precedents

## Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, *Washington, DC*

A living memorial  
honoring Kennedy's  
aspirational vision of  
the arts

Accessible,  
interactive, and  
community-centered  
programming

Spaces named after  
historical and  
personal moments  
of Kennedy's life





# Precedents

## Okuplaza Fest, Washington, DC

Promote  
community-building  
in neighborhoods  
experiencing rapid  
demographic and  
social change

Engaged residents  
to discuss the future  
of the District

Piloted placemaking  
recommendations in  
the Adams Morgan  
Vision Framework  
and Cultural Plan



Love the  
wk of unity  
Talk for hennocks,  
mwr, food and  
community  
gathering!

DO YOU:	
LIVE IN ADAMS MORGAN	
WORK IN ADAMS MORGAN	
WORK/LIVE IN DC OR DC AREA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OTHER	
AGE:	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNDER 12	
<input type="checkbox"/> 13 - 18	
<input type="checkbox"/> 19 - 35	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 35 - 55	
<input type="checkbox"/> 55 - OVER	
RACE/ETHNIC GROUP:	Mixed Caucasian
GENDER:	Female Asian



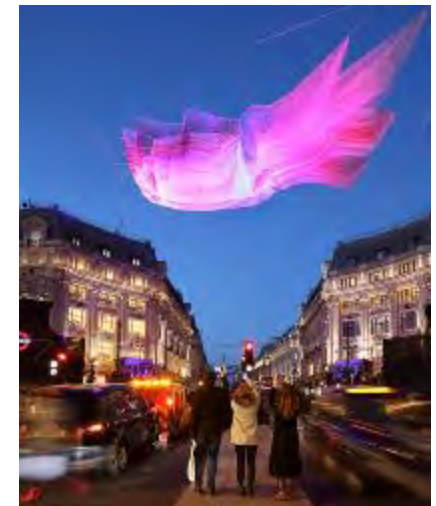


# Precedents

## Memorials for the Future, *NCPC Design Competition*

Getting beyond the  
“grass-and-granite”  
approach to  
memorials

Design processes  
that promote open  
competition to  
expand type of  
memorials and pool  
of designers





## Paper Monuments, New Orleans

Two-year initiative  
prompted by removal  
of Jim Crow-era  
monuments

Poster campaign of  
commissioned  
artwork celebrating  
people, places, and  
events

Public proposals  
submitted by  
residents (over 1,100)

Events and Pop-ups  
that includes  
storytelling events  
open artist calls, and  
more.

Paper monuments  
became 10 temporary  
installations







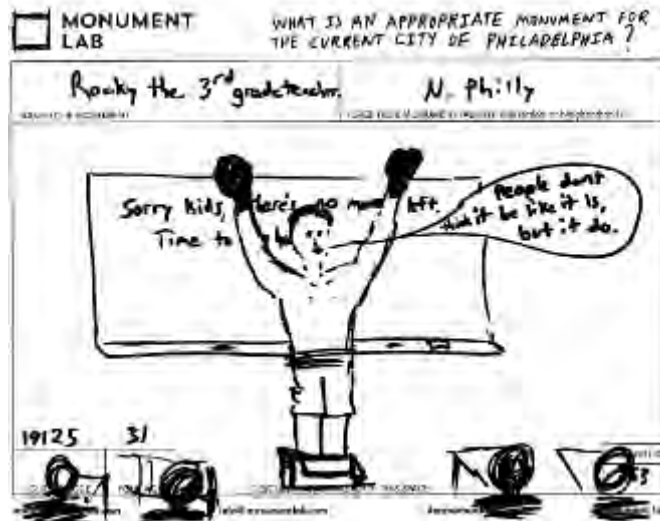
## Monument Lab, Philadelphia

Independent public  
art and history  
studio

Works with  
municipal agencies  
and cultural  
institutions

Facilitates  
conversations  
around the past,  
present, and future  
of monuments

Based in  
Philadelphia with  
projects throughout  
North America







# Potential Pilot Project(s)





# Discussion



# Next Steps

## Recommendations

1. Proceed with Location Strategy – Develop timeline for in-house strategy
2. Innovation and Awareness Campaign for Commemoration Strategy – Develop scope of work and budget for public engagement strategy and model projects.



# Next Steps

Coordination with City Council

**B23-233, Diverse Washingtonians Commemorative Works Amendment Act of 2019**

**B23-2234, Advisory Commission on Monuments, Markers, and Symbols Establishment Act of 2019**



# Next Steps

## Time Line

