



October 21, 2010

**TO:** Montgomery County Planning Board

**VIA:** Mary Bradford, Director, Department of Parks *M Bradford*  
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**SUBJECT:** **Public Hearing Josiah Henson Special Park (also called "Uncle Tom's Cabin") Master Plan**

**Background**

On September 16, 2010, staff presented the Staff Draft for the Josiah Henson Special Park (also called "Uncle Tom's Cabin") Master Plan and made the following recommendations:

**APPROVAL** to change park name from Uncle Tom's Cabin Special Park to Josiah Henson Special Park;

**APPROVAL** to publish staff draft for purposes of Planning Board Public Hearing, to be scheduled October 28, 2010.

The Planning Board deferred the staff recommendation #1 in order to allow the public to respond to the recommended name change at the Planning Board Public Hearing.

The Planning Board approved publishing the staff draft and scheduling the Planning Board Public Hearing date for October 28, 2010 and asked that letters to McDOT, MDSHA, and WMATA regarding related transportation issues be drafted for the Planning Board Vice Chairman's signature.

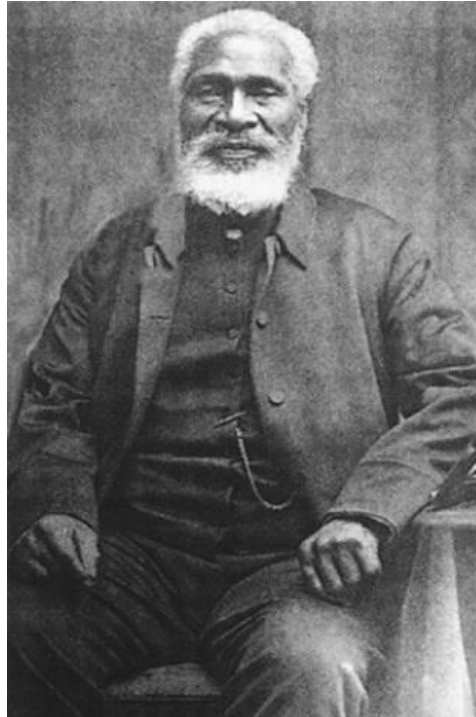
**Remaining master plan schedule**

Following the Public Hearing, staff will respond to testimony in the form of a **concept plan drawing** and a **table detailing each comment and the Plan response**, which will be posted on the project website and the Planning Board agenda website one week prior to the work session. Staff has requested a work session with the Planning Board on November 18, 2010 to respond to comments received from the public.



# **Josiah Henson Special Park Master Plan**

**- PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT -**



**Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission  
Montgomery County Department of Parks**

*October 21, 2010*

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***County Council***

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George Leventhal  
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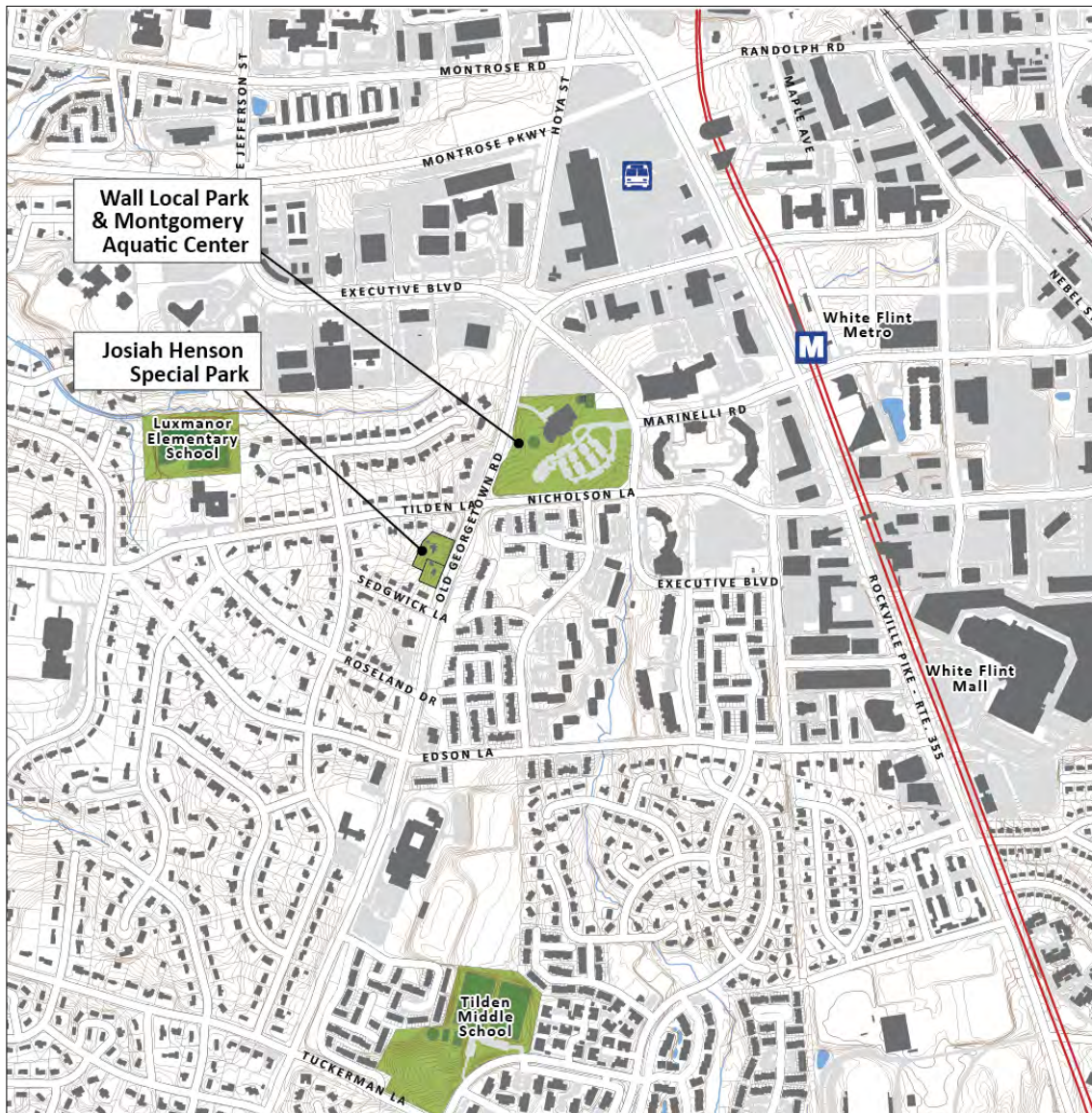
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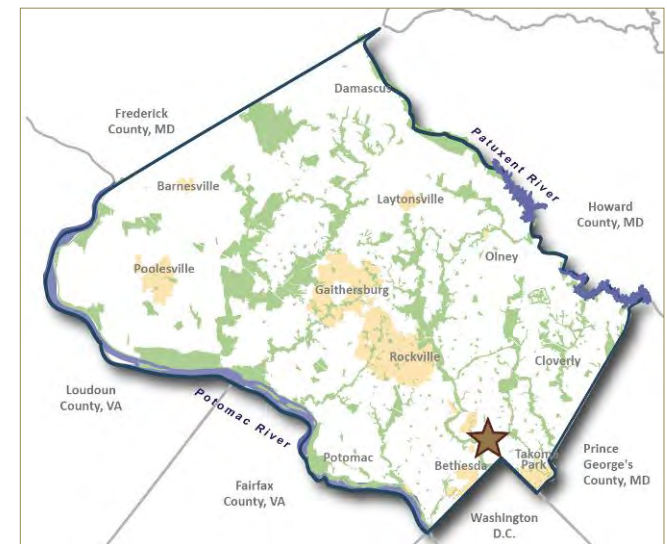
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Figure 1 - Locator Maps



Left - Vicinity Map  
Below - Countywide Map



## **Purpose of the Plan**

The purpose of the Plan is to establish:

- A site-specific Vision Statement;
- A process and means for gathering and responding to public input;
- Guidance in the short term for ongoing operations and programming; and
- Guidance to the upcoming Facility Plan

*Figure 2 - Process for developing the Preliminary Program of Requirements*



Figure 3 - Archaeological activities in the Park



Left - Illustration of the archaeological excavations at the Josiah Henson Site performed in 2008 by John Milner and Assoc., Inc.



Top - An archaeology volunteer at work.  
Bottom - Archaeological excavation in the backyard of the Josiah Henson Site.



## The Park Today

### Site Description

- 1.5 acres in an R-200 Zone
- Special Park
- Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane in North Bethesda
- Southern Maintenance Region
- Adjacent to White Flint Sector Planning Area

### Opportunities

- An internationally significant cultural resource
- Interpretation can be achieved through Henson’s own words from his autobiographies.
- Interpretation of the history of Slavery in Montgomery County and Maryland, the “middle ground,” can be extensive.
- Stakeholders: Consensus can be achieved and efforts realized through cooperation among adjacent Luxmanor residents, Historians and Archaeologists, African American community countywide, the Maryland-National Park Planning Commission and other interested parties.



Top - rear view of Riley Farm Cabin  
Bottom - front view of Riley Farm Cabin

### Potential Constraints

- Surrounding land-use is single-family residential, R-200 Zone
- Adjacent private, land-use pattern does not reflect historic landscape
- Small, constrained site and has no parking
- Site’s historical public ‘persona’ mandates improved security (Note: Implementation of recommendations from a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Study is underway)
- Wayfinding and destination signage are required
- M-NCPPC’s future operating and capital budgets likely insufficient for full program.

Figure 4 - Site Map



## **Transportation and Access Issues**

See Appendix 3: Traffic Meeting Minutes concerning traffic issues raised by the public. Additional Planning Department response is being prepared and will be available shortly.

- Safe, adequate pedestrian and vehicular access is a concern. Parks staff met with other government agencies. Solutions require analysis and actions by these other government agencies including Montgomery County Department of Transportation and the State Highway Administration.
- Traffic and parking situation are concerns given neighborhood setting.

## **Regulatory Impacts**

- Historic Preservation Ordinance/Chapter 24-A of the Montgomery County Code because site is a local landmark.
- Section 106 of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act (due to a Save America's Treasures grant).
- Forest Conservation and Environmental Site Design
- Noise Regulations (If applicable)
- American Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance

Figure 5 - Josiah Henson's Journeys through Maryland, 1789-1830.

1. **Henson's Birthplace, 1789**  
Francis Newman Plantation, Port Tobacco, Charles County, MD
2. **Owner of Henson's Mother**  
Dr. Josiah McPherson Plantation, Charles County, MD
3. **Site of Slave Auctions near Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.**
4. **Adam Robb, former owner of Henson**  
Adam Robb Plantation, Rockville, MD
5. **Site of Henson's Enslavement, 1789-1830**  
Isaac Riley Plantation, Rockville, MD
6. **Site of Henson's Spiritual Conversion**  
Newport Mill, Montgomery County, MD
7. **Marketplace frequented by Henson**  
Georgetown, Washington, DC



Map of Maryland, c. 1795

## Historic Context

- The park is part of the Isaac Riley plantation where Reverend Josiah Henson, an enslaved person, grew from early childhood into adulthood.
- After escape to Canada in 1830, Henson wrote his autobiography which inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Henson's autobiography describes the Riley plantation and his forced labor there. It also describes being inside the Riley House.
- Henson's particular life story and history of slavery and emancipation in Montgomery County connect this site to other historic sites in the county and in Rockville such as Newport Mill in the Ken-Gar neighborhood (where Henson found Christianity), the sites of the Rockville auction block (where slaves were sold and families separated), Adam Robb's cabin (Henson's prior owner before his purchase by Isaac Riley), etc.
- The park also has connections to other destinations in Henson's story: his birthplace in Charles County, his travels to Kentucky (where he was sent to live as a slave under Amos Riley), his return as a minister (where he preached in the free state of Ohio), and his escape on the Underground Railroad.
- This park is the only site with a standing structure left in the United States where people interested in Henson can still visit and discern an association with his life.
- Henson established a free black settlement called Dawn in Ontario, Canada that is Ontario Heritage Trust Site. Canada has designated Henson a "Canadian of National Historical Significance."

**Figure 6** - Josiah Henson's North American Travels, 1795-1830

1. Montgomery County, MD
2. Daviess County, KY
3. Mississippi River, LA
4. Cincinnati, OH
5. Sandusky City, OH
6. Buffalo, NY
7. Dawn Settlement, Ontario, Canada



## **Guiding Documents**

### **Planning Board Approved Actions**

- *1979 – Master Plan for Historic Preservation - Resource #30/6, Individual Designation: “Uncle Tom’s Cabin.” Subject to Chapter 24-A of the Montgomery County Code, Historic Preservation Ordinance.*
- *2005 – Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan - “Integrate interpretive programs into park master plans.”*
- *2009 – Legacy Open Space Master Plan. Josiah Henson site added as a “heritage resource” during Parks’ acquisition of the Rozier parcel.*
- *2010 – White Flint Sector Plan - “The redesign of Wall Local Park should . . . include a pedestrian connection to the Josiah Henson/Uncle Tom’s Cabin site, a cultural site of international significance, about one quarter-mile south on Old Georgetown Road and one half-mile from the Metro station. This Plan envisions a public/private partnership with adjacent properties to relocate the surface parking within a parking structure built in conjunction with new residential development such as a public/private agreement.”*

### **Staff Documents**

- *2008 – Historic Structure Report for The Riley Farm / Josiah Henson Site - Three (3) alternative treatment plans are proposed to lay the groundwork for schematic design in accordance with Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Historic Preservation and to support historical exhibits on Henson and slavery. (Visit [www.JosiahHensonSite.org](http://www.JosiahHensonSite.org) and see the Historic Structure Report for the Riley House/Josiah Henson Site Summary in the Appendix.)*
- *2006 – Artifact to Attraction a Strategic Plan for Cultural Resources in Parks - A “Top 20 Priority Project” with the long-term goal of public interpretation.*

## Plan Recommendations

### Vision

Adopt a facility-specific vision for this cultural site. Staff recommends the following:

#### A public museum that ...

- celebrates the challenging and inspiring life of Rev. Josiah Henson, the man who inspired the fictional character “Uncle Tom”;
- educates visitors about the enslavement of African Americans in Maryland; and
- promotes a greater appreciation of history in Montgomery County.



Top - *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and portrait of the author, Harriett Beecher Stowe in 1881.

Bottom - *Uncle Tom's Story of His Life* and portrait of the author, Reverend Josiah Henson

Figure 7 - Interpretive Themes Diagram



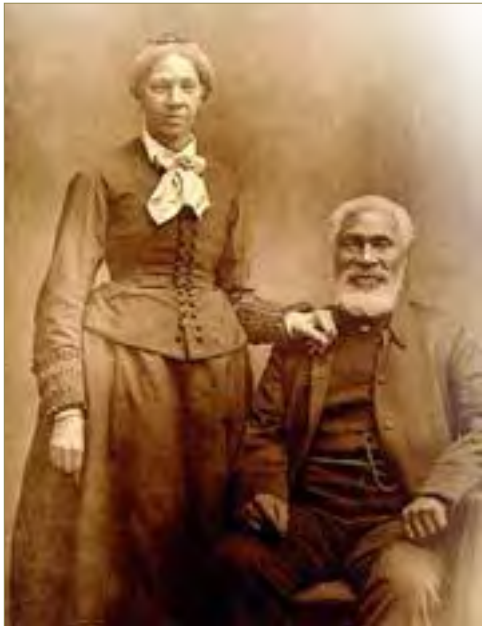


## **Interpretive Themes**

Work continuously to explore and refine best interpretive themes to guide programs.

Historical exhibit themes will enable the public to come to know, appreciate, and put into context, the life of Reverend Josiah Henson, an African American Marylander who represents an iconic American image. Henson's Maryland years, especially the ones spent in Montgomery County at the Riley plantation, illustrate what slavery was like on the "Middle Ground," the cultural and philosophical situation that parallels the geographic "middle ground" of the Border States.

Through Henson's experiences the exhibit will explore the childhood of enslaved persons; family life; work; travel and independence; spiritual life; punishment and resistance; and freedom. It is impossible to understand Josiah Henson's life in a historical vacuum. Riley family life and tradition are linked to the understanding of Henson's Maryland years. Whenever possible, Henson's own words will give voice to the stories of his life. (*Historic Structure Report, 2008*)



Above - The Reverend Josiah Henson and his wife.

### **Reverend Josiah Henson - African American Slave Experience in Montgomery County, Maryland** (born 1789, died 1883)

#### **Early Life of Enslaved People**

- **Childhood**

Slavery extracted a huge toll on the lives of enslaved children. (*Historic Structure Report*) (*Public Meeting: J. Henson Theme*)

- **Family Life**

Slavery in 19<sup>th</sup> century Maryland separated families, created hardships, and forced families to struggle to remain united. (*Historic Structure Report*) (*Public Meeting: J. Henson Theme*)

- **Spiritual Life**

Many enslaved persons maintained a spiritual life under varying circumstances; as spirituality was a sustaining resource to them in their daily lives. The desire to read the Bible was also motivation to become literate during a period when literacy for the enslaved was illegal. (*Historic Structure Report*)

## **Work & Living Conditions**

Economic conditions of slaveholders varied, determining the living conditions of enslaved people and the work they performed, whether that be domestic, industrial, and/or agricultural. *(Historic Structure Report) (Public Meeting: J. Henson Theme)*

- **Travel and Independence**

Enslaved people sometimes exercised independence when given opportunities to travel on their own, promoting their own causes and satisfying their own desires. *(Historic Structure Report) (Public Meeting: J. Henson Theme)*

- **Leadership & Responsibility**

Enslaved people struggled to be recognized as human, not chattel; they demonstrated leadership skills and claimed responsibility when they could. *(Historic Structure Report) (Public Meeting: J. Henson Theme)*

- **Punishment & Resistance**

The institution of slavery was held in place by violence — much of which took place within the confines of the law. Punishment of the enslaved impacted both the living conditions and family life. Resistance to enslavement and its cruel punishments were exercised by many methods including escape. *(Historic Structure Report)*

## **Freedom / Emancipation**

Enslaved people sought emancipation via **manumission**, **purchase** of their own freedom, or **escape**. Enslaved people made personal sacrifices to gain their own and others' freedom via the **Underground Railroad**. *(Public Meeting J. Henson Theme) (Public Meeting: Montgomery County History of Slavery Theme)*

- **Free Black Communities (1800s)**

Emancipated slaves and their descendants formed close-knit **communities**, including many in Montgomery County, Maryland. *(Public Meeting: Montgomery County's History of Slavery Theme)*

## **Isaac Riley Plantation**

### ▪ **Slaveholding Family**

The life of the Riley family, representing a slaveholding family near Rockville, is linked to understanding both Henson's Maryland years and Montgomery County's role within a border state, "the middle ground." (*Historic Structure Report*) (*Public Meeting: Montgomery County History of Slavery Theme*)

### ▪ **Plantation History**

The evolution of the Riley Plantation, from its beginning to the present, demonstrates changes in American **architecture** and **landscape**, also evident through **archaeology**. (*Historic Structure Report*) (*Public Meeting: Architectural and Historic Landscape Interpretation Theme and Archaeological Discovery Theme*)

## **Myth, History, Literature & Stereotypes**

Myth, literature, history, and stereotype are woven together in the interpretation of the period from slavery to freedom to civil rights. The complexities of slavery are revealed through the examination of: **slave narratives** and stories surrounding slavery and relevant primary documents.

### ▪ **Harriet Beecher Stowe**

It was due to the widespread publication of her 1852 book, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, in many different languages around the world that Henson's true-life story came to be known. (*Historic Structure Report*)

## Goals and Objectives

Based on public input, Staff developed four Goals. The Goals and Objectives are used to guide future operational and capital improvements.

- **Goal #1** - Interpret Josiah Henson's life and the history of slavery in Montgomery County
- **Goal #2** - Retain the integrity of the historic architecture and landscape
- **Goal #3** - Create a safe, accessible site.
- **Goal #4** - Develop advocacy and fundraising strategies to ensure the viability of the site.

To meet the Plan Goals, Staff then developed three implementation options, Minimum, Moderate and Maximum. These options are detailed in the chart in the *Implementation Options Chart (Figure 9)*.

- The **Minimum Option** equates with the current level of programming. Essentially depicts the activities now taking place at the Josiah Henson Special Park.
- The **Moderate Option** takes the park to the next level in capital improvements and interpretive programming.
- The **Maximum Option** outlines steps for more extensive capital improvements and expanded interpretive programming.

Staff selected the **Moderate Option** as best meeting the goals of the public, the carrying capacity of the small park situated in a residential neighborhood, and the realities of the Department and County budgets.

**Implementation Options- Minimum, Moderate, Maximum**

*Figure 8 - Implementation Options Chart*

**GOAL #1: Interpret Josiah Henson's life and the history of slavery in Montgomery County**

OBJECTIVE	MINIMUM	MODERATE	MAXIMUM
<p><b>Provide interpretative programming of the Riley house, 1850s log kitchen grounds and archaeological sites.</b></p>	<p>Open the site to the public (4) days per year and conduct limited special request tours for private groups.</p> <p>The (4) occasions when the site is open to the public include: Luxmanor Citizens Community Art Show (April), Maryland House &amp; Garden Pilgrimage (May), Montgomery County Heritage Days (June), and Maryland Emancipation Day (Nov).</p>	<p>Conduct (4) annual special programs: Luxmanor Citizens Community Art Show (April), Maryland House &amp; Garden Pilgrimage (May), Montgomery County Heritage Days (June), and Maryland Emancipation Day (Nov).</p> <p>Open the site to the public February through November (1) day per month. Conduct limited special request tours for private groups and school groups (primarily for 4<sup>th</sup> + 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels).</p> <p>Hire (1) full-time employee whose office will be on the site.</p> <p>When open, guided tours are conducted of the house, grounds and the ongoing archaeological digs; and a 5-10 minute orientation film (produced by Parks) is also shown.</p> <p>Expand program opportunities to include hands-on activities, lectures and symposia, living history demonstrations, programs for school children, and an interactive website.</p>	<p>Open the site to the public February through November (5) days per week (3 weekdays, Saturday and Sunday. Conduct special request tours for private groups and school groups (primarily for 4<sup>th</sup> + 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels.)</p> <p>Hire (2+) full-time employees, with offices on the site.</p> <p>[Utilize same programming as those noted in MODERATE OPTION.]</p>
<p><b>Conduct ongoing research into Josiah Henson (especially his experiences in Maryland, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Canada and Europe), slavery in Montgomery County, and make connections to local and regional African American history and related topics.</b></p>	<p>Conduct 200 hours of research annually.</p> <p>Ongoing research will ensure accurate interpretation through programs and exhibitions.</p> <p>Establish an archival collection at the site focused primarily on Josiah Henson and slavery in Montgomery County.</p>	<p>Expand research topics to include expanded interpretive themes.</p> <p>Conduct 400 hours of research annually.</p> <p>Establish an ongoing paid collegiate internship program to enlist (1) intern per semester to work onsite.</p> <p>Expand the archival and library collections.</p>	<p>Conduct 600 hours of research annually.</p> <p>Hire (1) part-time historian.</p> <p>Maintain collegiate internship program with (1) intern per semester working onsite.</p> <p>Expand research topics to include expanded interpretive themes.</p> <p>Expand the archival and library collections.</p>
<p><b>Establish collaborations with local, regional, statewide, national and international historical</b></p>	<p>Coordinate with local &amp; county-wide historical agencies on programming for the site, such as: Lincoln Park Foundation, Peerless Rockville, Montgomery County Historical Society, Menare Foundation, etc.</p>	<p>Establish an interpretive advisory committee to assist in the development of the facility plan.</p> <p>Expand interpretive program coordination to include the Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site (Ontario, Canada),</p>	<p>Expand interpretive program coordination to include more national and international historic organizations such as the National Museum of African American History and Culture (D.C.), and historic institutions in</p>

OBJECTIVE	MINIMUM	MODERATE	MAXIMUM
<b>organizations to support joint interpretive programming for the site.</b>	Establish an interpretive advisory committee to assist in the development of the facility plan.	regional and national historical organizations such as: M-NCPPC Prince George County historic sites, the Reginald F. Lewis Maryland Museum of African American History (Baltimore), Harriet B. Stowe Center (Hartford, CT) and the Underground Railroad Freedom Center (Cincinnati, OH).  Establish a one-room research library (non-borrowing), specializing on Josiah Henson, slavery in Montgomery County and the international appeal of both Henson's narrative and H. B. Stowe's novel, <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> .  Consider making proposed research/room an online touch-screen resource.	England and Denmark.  Expand the research into a research center (non-borrowing) onsite that will be open the same hours as the museum.  Hire (1) part-time or seasonal archivist/librarian to manage the research center.
<b>Produce an orientation film focused on Josiah Henson's Maryland years and the Isaac Riley family.</b>	When open, guided tours are conducted of the house, grounds and the ongoing archaeological digs; and, the video, "Father Henson – His Spirit Lives On" (produced by Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site in Ontario) is also shown.	Produce a 5-10 minute orientation film to introduce Josiah Henson, the Riley plantation history and an overview of slavery in Montgomery County.  Show orientation film within the onsite museum exhibition.	Produce a full-length documentary on the life of Josiah Henson (focused on his Maryland years), the Riley family and plantation history, and an overview of slavery in Montgomery County.  Documentary will be available for sale to the public.
<b>Design, fabricate and install museum quality exhibitions in the Riley house, 1850s log kitchen and on the grounds.</b>		<b>Riley House:</b> Design, develop and install exhibitions with didactic panels, minimal artifacts, and low-tech interactive, such as tactical farm implements that can be handled by children.  <b>1850s Log Kitchen:</b> Restore the second, rear doorway; lower the floor; restore either partially or completely the attic; and create a simulated dirt floor.  <b>Grounds:</b> Design and install a kitchen garden.	<b>Riley House:</b> Increase the level of technology for the exhibit interactives such as touch screen computer stations.  <b>1850s Log Kitchen:</b> Restore and furnish the kitchen to a functional 1850s kitchen with working hearth.  <b>Grounds:</b> Expand on the gardens to included samplings of historic crop plantings.  Reconstruct outbuilding(s) such as the smokehouse.

**GOAL #2: Retain the integrity of the historic architecture and landscape**

OBJECTIVE	MINIMUM	MODERATE	MAXIMUM
<b>Demolish 1960s Rozier house and garage.</b>	Complete demolition of house and garage.	Complete demolition of house and garage.	Complete demolition of house and garage.
<b>Use historic documentation and archaeology to identify former structures and features of the plantation and make archaeology a vital element of ongoing</b>	Pursue ongoing archaeological investigation and make archaeological artifacts a vibrant component of exhibit.	Pursue ongoing archaeological investigation.  Make archaeological artifacts a vibrant component of exhibit.	Pursue ongoing archaeological investigation and make archaeological artifacts a vibrant component of exhibit.

OBJECTIVE	MINIMUM	MODERATE	MAXIMUM
work and future exhibits.			
<p><b>Identify and label large trees, remove non-historic plantings, and return landscape to an earlier form with known crops/planting.</b></p>		<p>Use landscape screening where appropriate and label old trees. Alter landscape to re-create historic feel where appropriate.</p> <p>Establish gardens (possible areas for reflection) and plantings based on historical information. Contract 1 full-time/seasonal gardener to maintain gardens and historic crop plantings.</p> <p>Consider creating a special school project to implement and/or care for the landscape.</p>	<p>[Maintain activities noted in the MODERATE OPTION.]</p>
<p><b>Preserve historic house according to historic preservation standards and applicable laws.</b><sup>1</sup></p> <p>See Appendix 1 for Staff priorities.</p>	<p>Minimum changes to the house, for use as a museum focused on Josiah Henson’s story, plantation life, and slavery with some interpretation of the Riley family and of the 1936-era architecture. This approach would be the least costly and would have the least adverse effect on the historic resources.</p>	<p>More moderate changes to the house, for use as a museum focused on Josiah Henson’s story, plantation life, and slavery, also with interpretation of the Riley family and of the 1936-era architecture. This approach would entail a few costs over what is absolutely necessary and would have a more pronounced effect on the historic resources. This recommendation places interpretive emphasis on the first half of the 19th century more than on 1936.</p>	<p>Generally, extensive changes to each part the House, for the most accurate or useful design of each of the house’s components as facilities for a museum focused on Josiah Henson’s story, plantation life, and slavery, with interpretation of the Riley family as well. This alternative has more focus on the 1936-era architecture in some parts of the house than the other alternatives. An exception would be in the 1936 kitchen, which would be gutted and rebuilt as an exhibit space. This approach incorporates some items that may be disproportionately costly, and in some areas, it would have a negative effect regarding some of the historic materials, particularly those dating from 1936. This recommendation places interpretive emphasis on the first half of the 19th century more than on 1936.</p>
<p><b>Expand the park to reflect its historic and/or cultural landscape significance.</b></p>	<p>Consider possible future expansion of existing park boundary based on presence of contributing historical and/or archaeological features as shown on aerial photography from 1927 and 1943. These features may include the farm road and former outbuildings with their adjacent land area. Future park acquisition assumes willing sellers, fair market value as determined through independent appraisals, and available funding.</p>	<p>Consider possible future expansion of existing park boundary based on presence of contributing historical and/or archaeological features as shown on aerial photography from 1927 and 1943. These features may include the farm road and former outbuildings with their adjacent land area. Future park acquisition assumes willing sellers, fair market value as determined through independent appraisals, and available funding.</p>	<p>Consider possible future expansion of existing park boundary based on presence of contributing historical and/or archaeological features as shown on aerial photography from 1927 and 1943. These features may include the farm road and former outbuildings with their adjacent land area. Future park acquisition assumes willing sellers, fair market value as determined through independent appraisals, and available funding.</p>

<sup>1</sup> *Historic Structure Report for the Riley House/Josiah Henson Site*, (June 2008), prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc.

**GOAL #3: Create a safe, accessible site**

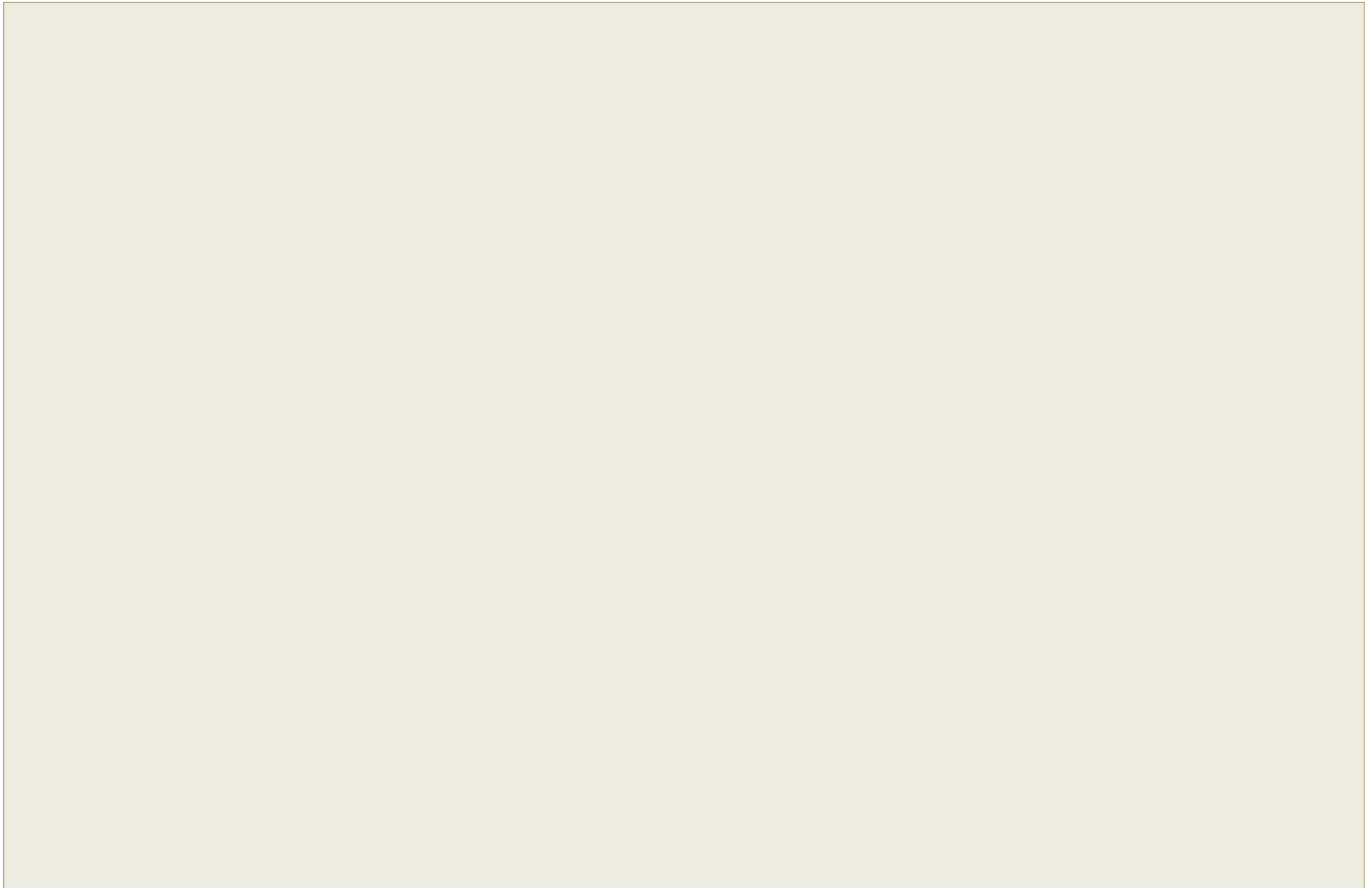
<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>MINIMUM</b>	<b>MODERATE</b>	<b>MAXIMUM</b>
<b>Make this site a safe park and protect its resources.</b>	Remove sight-limiting shrubs, add motion-detection lighting, and better secure house and contents against potential vandals.	Remove sight-limiting shrubs, add motion-detection lighting, and better secure house and contents against potential vandals.	
<b>Create onsite parking spaces.</b>	Staff park at both the Rozier house and the Riley house in the existing driveways.	Create (5) parking spaces: (3) staff spaces and (2) ADA public spaces.  Create a bus pull-off for 55-passenger coach buses and school buses.	
<b>Design and implement adequate public access on Old Georgetown Road.</b>	Staff and visitors use the existing driveway into the Riley house and grounds.	Create a separate access road for Parks maintenance staff.  Create a pedestrian-only access from Old Georgetown Road utilizing the existing driveway into the Riley house and grounds.  Create a pedestrian path from the parking lot on the former Rozier property to the Riley house and grounds.  Eliminate the circular driveway on the Riley grounds and restore the historic spring access.  Identify ADA compliant access points.	
<b>Install restroom facilities.</b>	Utilize (2) port-a-johns (ADA and regular) during special events.	Install (2) permanent public restrooms on the existing non-historic site.	Install multiple permanent restrooms off site in a future visitor center.
<b>Create a visitor orientation/information point onsite.</b>	Install (up to 3) interpretive signs.  Install a standard Parks information kiosk on the former Rozier property.  Utilize the existing garage on the Riley grounds as a visitor orientation site.	Install a standard Parks information kiosk on the former Rozier property.  Install (up to 3) interpretive signs.  Use the existing garage on the Riley grounds as a visitor orientation site with moderate design changes.	Build a visitor center off site (if additional land becomes available.)
<b>Install park amenities for the enjoyment of visitors.</b>		Install bike racks in the parking area.  Install outdoor benches.	



**GOAL #4: Develop advocacy and fundraising strategies to ensure the viability of the site**

OBJECTIVE	MINIMUM	MODERATE	MAXIMUM
<p><b>Establish income streams to support ongoing programming and staffing.</b></p>	<p>Obtain federal grants and state bond bills in addition to county funding sources.</p>	<p>Establish income streams from (3) areas:</p> <p>Government agencies: Solicit funding sources from items such as park tax, bonds, grants, etc.</p> <p>Business model: Establish a gift shop onsite; seek developer contributions from future private developers; and generate revenue from programming such as fees charged for special programs, group tours, etc.</p> <p>Contract a development/fundraising consultant to identify target funding opportunities and to fundraise.</p> <p>Seek develop contributions from nearby by developers such as those occurring within the White Flint Sector.</p>	<p>Establish an ongoing income stream that will fund one position for a full- or part-time employee for the site.</p>
<p><b>Establish a volunteer corps to provide interpretive program assistance, to serve as advocates within the community and to provide pro bono services in specialty areas, such as development and advocacy.</b></p>	<p>Manage small group of volunteer docents.</p>	<p>Encourage the Luxmanor Citizens Association to create a committee of community members in support of the Josiah Henson Special Park.</p> <p>Establish a volunteer corps to provide guided tours and assist with special programs.</p> <p>Establish partnerships with local schools</p>	<p>Hire staff person to manage volunteer corps.</p>
<p><b>Facilitate the establishment of a Friends group.</b></p>		<p>Develop a site-specific Friends group whose primary focus will be to support the Josiah Henson Special Park with fundraising/development activities.</p>	<p>Financially supported by the Friends' fundraising programs, the following staff will be hired: (1) grant writer or development officer, (1) program coordinator and possibly a volunteer coordinator.</p>

**Figure 9 - Plan Drawing for Moderate Option - coming**



## **Preferred Option**

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the “**Moderate Option**” in the Master Plan as the preferred option.

Staff selected the **Moderate Option** for the following reasons:

1. It successfully fulfills the interpretive goals and potential of the historic site;
2. It maintains compatibility with the neighborhood in which it sits;
3. The operational benchmarks are achievable with a reasonable request for facility-specific staff; and
4. It is compatible with the economic realities of the Department and County, neither accepting of a status-quo vacant house with minimal public openings nor overreaching to emulate capital outlays achievable in the private museum sector.

On the following pages the Moderate Option is further detailed in the Implementation Plan drawing and the Implementation Options Chart.

**Moderate Option: Implementation and Project Staging**

Figure 10 - Implementation and Project Staging Chart

KEY: "Plan and/or Design" = White Boxes and "Construct and/or Implement" = Blue Arrows

Plan Element	Description	Short Term FY11-12	Mid & Long Term FY13-18
<b>GOAL 1</b>			
<b>Interpret Josiah Henson's life and the history of slavery in Montgomery County</b>			
<b>Objective 1.1</b> Provide interpretative programming of the Riley house, 1850s log kitchen, grounds and archaeological sites.			
<b>Action 1</b>	Conduct (4) annual special programs: Luxmanor Citizens Community Art Show (April), Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage (May), Montgomery County Heritage Days (June), and Maryland Emancipation Day (Nov).	[Blue arrow spanning FY11-12 and FY13-18]	
<b>Action 2</b>	Open the site to the public February through November (1) day per month. Conduct limited special request tours for private groups and school groups (primarily for 4th + 8th grade levels).	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	
<b>Action 3</b>	Hire (1) full-time employee whose office will be on the site.	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	
<b>Action 4</b>	When open, guided tours are conducted of the house, grounds and the ongoing archaeological digs; and a 5-10 minute orientation film (produced by Parks) is also shown.	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	
<b>Action 5</b>	Expand program opportunities to include hands-on activities, lectures and symposia, living history demonstrations, programs for school children, and an interactive website.	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	
<b>Objective 1.2</b> Conduct ongoing research into Josiah Henson (especially his experiences in Maryland, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Canada and Europe), slavery in Montgomery County, and make connections to local and regional African American history, and related topics.			
<b>Action 1</b>	Expand research topics to include expanded interpretive themes.	[Blue arrow spanning FY11-12 and FY13-18]	
<b>Action 2</b>	Conduct 400 hours of research annually.	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	
<b>Action 3</b>	Establish an ongoing paid collegiate internship program to enlist (1) intern per semester to work onsite.	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	
<b>Action 4</b>	Expand the archival and library collections.	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	
<b>Objective 1.3</b> Establish collaborations with local, regional, statewide, national and international historical organizations to support joint interpretive programming for the site.			
<b>Action 1</b>	Establish an interpretive advisory committee to assist in the development of the facility plan.	[Blue arrow spanning FY11-12 and FY13-18]	
<b>Action 2</b>	Expand interpretive program coordination to include the Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site (Ontario, Canada), regional and national historical organizations such as: M-NCPPC Prince George County historic sites, the Reginald F. Lewis Maryland Museum of African American History (Baltimore), Harriet B. Stowe Center (Hartford, CT) and the Underground Railroad Freedom Center (Cincinnati, OH).	[Dashed box in FY11-12, Blue arrow in FY13-18]	

Plan Element	Description	Short Term FY11-12	Mid & Long Term FY13-18		
<b>Action 3</b>	Establish a one-room research library (non-borrowing), specializing on Josiah Henson, slavery in Montgomery County and the international appeal of both Henson's narrative and H. B. Stowe's novel, Uncle Tom's Cabin.				
<b>Objective 1.4</b> Produce an orientation film focused on Josiah Henson's Maryland years and the Isaac Riley family.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Produce a 5-10 minute orientation film to introduce Josiah Henson, the Riley plantation history and an overview of slavery in Montgomery County.				
<b>Action 2</b>	Show orientation film within the onsite museum exhibition.				
<b>Objective 1.5</b> Design, fabricate and install museum quality exhibitions in the Riley house, 1850s log kitchen and on the grounds.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Riley House: Design, develop and install exhibitions with didactic panels, minimal artifacts, and low-tech interactive, such as tactical farm implements that can be handled by children.				
<b>Action 2</b>	1850s Log Kitchen: Restore the second, rear doorway; lower the floor; restore either partially or completely the attic; and create a simulated dirt floor.				
<b>Action 3</b>	Grounds: Design and install a kitchen garden.				
<b>GOAL 2</b> <b>Retain the integrity of the historic architecture and landscape</b>					
<b>Objective 2.1</b> Demolish 1960s Rozier house and garage.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Completion demolition of the Rozier house and garage.				
<b>Objective 2.2</b> Use historic documentation and archaeology to identify former structures and features of the plantation and make archaeology a vital element of ongoing work and future exhibits.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Pursue ongoing archaeological investigation.				
<b>Action 2</b>	Make archaeological artifacts a vibrant component of exhibit.				
<b>Objective 2.3</b> Identify and label large trees, remove non-historic plantings, and return landscape to an earlier form with known crops/planting.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Use landscape screening where appropriate and label old trees.				
<b>Action 2</b>	Alter landscape to re-create historic feel where appropriate.				
<b>Action 3</b>	Establish gardens (possible areas for reflection) and plantings based on historical information.				

Plan Element	Description	Short Term FY11-12	Mid & Long Term FY13-18		
<b>Objective 2.4</b> Preserve historic house according to historic preservation standards and applicable laws.					
<b>Action 1</b>	More moderate changes to the house, for use as a museum focused on Josiah Henson's story, plantation life, and slavery, also with interpretation of the Riley family and of the 1936-era architecture. This approach would entail a few costs over what is absolutely necessary and would have a more pronounced effect on the historic resources. <b>** Note - staff's recommendation places interpretive emphasis on the first half of the 19th century more than on 1936.</b> (See Appendix 1 "Alternatives" taken and modified from the Historic Structure Report, 2008, to reflect staff priorities.)				
<b>Objective 2.5</b> Expand the park to reflect its historic and/or cultural landscape significance.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Consider possible future expansion of existing park boundary based on presence of contributing historical and/or archaeological features as shown on aerial photography from 1927 and 1943. These features may include the farm road and former outbuildings with their adjacent land area. Future park acquisition assumes willing sellers, fair market value as determine through three independent appraisals, and available funding.				
<b>GOAL 3</b> Create a safe, accessible site.					
<b>Objective 3.1</b> Make this site a safe park and protect its resources.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Remove sight-limiting shrubs, add motion-detection lighting, and better secure house and contents against potential vandals.				
<b>Objective 3.2</b> Create onsite parking spaces.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Create (5) parking spaces: (3) staff spaces and (2) ADA public spaces.				
<b>Action 2</b>	Create a bus pull-off for 55-passenger coach buses and school buses.				
<b>Objective 3.3</b> Design and implement adequate public access on Old Georgetown Road.					
<b>Action 1</b>	Create a separate access road for Parks maintenance staff.				
<b>Action 2</b>	Create a pedestrian-only access from Old Georgetown Road utilizing the existing driveway into the Riley house and grounds.				
<b>Action 3</b>	Create a pedestrian path from the parking lot on the former Rozier property to the Riley house and grounds.				
<b>Action 4</b>	Eliminate the circular driveway on the Riley grounds and restore the historic spring access.				
<b>Action 5</b>	Identify ADA compliant access points.				

Plan Element	Description	Short Term FY11-12	Mid & Long Term FY13-18
<b>Objective 3.4</b>	Install restroom facilities.		
<b>Action 1</b>	Install (2) permanent ADA restrooms (male and female) on the existing Riley garage site.		
<b>Objective 3.5</b>	Create a Visitor Orientation/Information Point onsite.		
<b>Action 1</b>	Install a standard Parks information kiosk on the former Rozier property.		
<b>Action 2</b>	Install (up to 3) interpretive signs.		
<b>Action 3</b>	Use the existing garage on the Riley grounds as a visitor orientation site with moderate design changes.		
<b>Objective 3.6</b>	Install park amenities for the enjoyment of visitors.		
<b>Action 1</b>	Install bike racks in the parking area.		
<b>Action 2</b>	Install outdoor benches.		
<b>GOAL 4</b>			
<b>Develop advocacy and fundraising strategies to ensure the viability of the site.</b>			
<b>Objective 4.1</b>	Establish income streams to support ongoing programming and staffing.		
<b>Action 1</b>	Establish income streams from (3) areas: Government agencies: Solicit funding sources from items such as park tax, bonds, etc. Business model: Establish a gift shop onsite; enlist benefits from future private developers (as available); and generate revenue from programming such as fees charged for special programs, group tours, etc.		
<b>Action 2</b>	Contract a development/fundraising consultant to identify target funding opportunities and to fundraise.		
<b>Objective 4.2</b>	Establish a volunteer corps to provide interpretive program assistance, to serve as advocates within the community and to provide pro bono services in specialty areas, such as development and advocacy.		
<b>Action 1</b>	Encourage the Luxmanor Citizens Association to create a committee of community members in support of the Josiah Henson Special Park.		
<b>Action 2</b>	Establish a volunteer corps to provide guided tours and assist with special programs.		
<b>Objective 4.3</b>	Facilitate the establishment of a Friends group.		
<b>Action 1</b>	Develop a site-specific Friends group whose primary focus will be to support the Josiah Henson Special Park with fundraising/development activities.		





## **Appendices**

**Appendix 1 - Excerpts from: "Historic Structure Report for the Riley House/Josiah Henson Site"**

**Appendix 2 - Summary of Public Meetings and Input**

**Appendix 3 - Traffic Meeting Minutes**

**Appendix 4 - List of Figures**



## **Appendix 1**

### **Excerpts from: "Historic Structure Report for the Riley House/Josiah Henson Site"**

The following alternative options for the Josiah Henson Special Park are built upon recommendations contained in the *Historic Structure Report for the Riley House/Josiah Henson Site* (June 2008), prepared by John Milner Associates, Inc.

It should be noted that certain elements in each Option are modified from John Milner Associates, Inc.'s recommendations in order to reflect staff's priorities. The three Option lists presented herein are specific to the house and immediate grounds of the 1-acre parcel originally purchased and containing the Riley House.

#### **Minimum Option**

Minimum changes to the House for use as a museum focused on Josiah Henson's story, plantation life, and slavery with some interpretation of the Riley family and of the 1936-era architecture. This approach would be the least costly and would have the least adverse effect on the historic resources.

- 1. General Landscape** — Keep landscape approximately as it is now. Purchase additional land as possible guided by documentation of historic and/or archaeological features and given willing sellers, fair market value, and available funding.
- 2. Driveway Access** — Keep the road access as is. Staff parking is accommodated at the terminus. (Note: public parking is off-site at nearby Wall Local Park.)
- 3. Garage** — Keep as is.
- 4. General Restoration of Exterior Features** (the same in all alternatives)
- 5. Shutters** — Restore the shutters, repairing damaged elements, and remaining faithful to the 1936 design.
- 6. Windows and Entrance Door of the Frame House** — Keep the window and door design as they are now. Install interior storm windows for improved thermal characteristics. (All options assume the house would have an air-conditioning system and a forced-air heating system other than an oil-fired furnace.)
- 7. Kitchen (West) Porch** — Restore/repair the rear (west) porch adjoining the kitchen, replacing damaged materials, following the 1936 design.
- 8. Window/Door from Current Library to Exterior** — Leave the window as it is.
- 9. Southeast Window/Doorway to the 1936 Kitchen Wing** — Leave window as it is.
- 10. Log Room Interior** — Keep as is, removing appearance of modern-day intrusions such as electrical outlets. Make interpretive focus on Henson and slavery.

- 11. Library** — Keep the Library as it is, restoring surfaces and fixtures to match the 1936 design. Interpret or use as a library, possibly with books that can be used by visitors.
- 12. Living Room** — Keep the Living Room as it is, restoring surfaces and fixtures to match the 1936 design. Use primarily as exhibit space.
- 13. Dining Room** — Use the wall space and floor area for exhibits about the plantation experience.
- 14. Kitchen in 1936 Wing** — Remove all appliances. Keep the details that date from 1936 in place. Use the room as a combination of part exhibit on the 1930s and kitchen functions and part other uses, possibly including a small museum shop.
- 15. Screened-in Porch** — Keep it as it is, but repair damaged details.
- 16. Second Story** — Repair any damaged materials. Use the space as part of Henson interpretation.

### **Moderate Option**

More moderate changes to the House, for use as a museum focused on Josiah Henson's story, plantation life, and slavery, also with interpretation of the Riley family and of the 1936-era architecture. This approach would be entail a few costs over what is absolutely necessary and would have a more pronounced effect on the historic resources.

- 1. General Landscape** — Remove boxwoods, some trees, and most twentieth century hardscape features (patios, walkways, barbecue, etc.) to achieve a design that more closely resembles the property in Henson's time. Create a facsimile of a slavery-era vegetable garden between the 1936 kitchen wing, the garage, and the log house and in the area behind the kitchen wing. Purchase additional land as possible guided by documentation of historic and/or archaeological features and given willing sellers, fair market value, and available funding.
- 2. Driveway Access** — Remove the circular terminus to provide more green space. Accommodate Public parking at Wall Local and potentially other public institutions. Build accessible paths at the site itself.
- 3. Garage** — Convert Garage to an orientation center at which a video can be shown and from which tours begin. The building may also be large enough to accommodate some small meetings, an admissions desk, and a display rack with free brochures and a limited number of items for sale. The building should include two accessible rest rooms.
- 4. General Restoration of Exterior Features** (the same in all alternatives)
- 5. Shutters** — Maintain and restore the shutters, repairing damaged elements, and remaining faithful to the 1936 design.
- 6. Windows and Entrance Door of the Frame House** — Keep as is.
- 7. Kitchen (West) Porch** — Restore the porch, repairing or replacing damaged materials, following the 1936 design in all aspects but keeping glazed storm enclosure.

**8. Window/Door from Current Library to Exterior** — Leave the window as it is.

**9. Southeast Window/Doorway to the 1936 Kitchen Wing** — Re-open the exterior doorway that formerly existed at the south end of the hallway from the dining room to the kitchen and living room, using it as part of an accessible path into the house by way of a ramp.

**10. Log Room Interior** — Treat the log room as a teaching environment about antebellum kitchen spaces and log slave quarters on the property up through 1850. Leave log walls exposed; re-open rear (west) door so that access can be made part of an accessible path from an orientation space in the garage; lower the floor to align with the lowest logs; create a floor surface that resembles a dirt floor (possibly tinted concrete with a slightly uneven surface and a sand finish); reinstall the loft floor to serve as a ceiling, using hand-hewn framing members.

**11. Library** — Remove the bookcases added to the room in 1936, but keep all other aspects of the room's design as they are now.

**12. Living Room** — Keep the Living Room as it is, restoring surfaces and fixtures to match the 1936 design. Interpret as a living room, but also with some interpretive exhibits.

**13. Dining Room** — Keep the Dining Room as it is, restoring surfaces and fixtures to match 1936 design. Interpret as a dining room, possibly displaying Riley family artifacts.

**14. Kitchen in 1936 Wing** — Remove most modern appliances. Keep the details that date from 1936 in place. Interpret the history of the evolution of a plantation from antebellum times to a modern day subdivision.

**15. Screened-in Porch** — Completely rebuild this space to provide one more room for the house. New floor should be on level with interior of house, and room should be completely sealed as part of interior space. Use the room to house a research library and possibly a small museum shop.

**16. Second Story** — Repair where materials have been damaged without removing or destroying any details shown on the 1936 drawings. Reinforce the floors as needed. Use the space as office and library space for a research facility, to the extent that may be allowed by code.

## **Maximum Option**

Generally, extensive changes to each part the House, for the most accurate or useful design of each of the house's components as facilities for a museum focused on Josiah Henson's story, plantation life, and slavery, with interpretation of the Riley family as well. This alternative has more focus on the 1936-era architecture in some parts of the house than the other alternatives. An exception would be in the kitchen, which would be gutted and rebuilt as an exhibit space. This approach incorporates some items that may be disproportionately costly, and in some areas, it would have a negative effect regarding some of the historic materials, particularly those dating from 1936.

- 1. General Landscape** — Remove boxwoods, some trees, and most twentieth-century hardscape features (patios, walkways, barbecue, etc.) based on achieving a design that more closely resembles the property in Henson's time. Create a facsimile of a slavery-era vegetable garden between the 1936 kitchen wing, the garage, and the log house extending back into the area behind the kitchen wing. Purchase adjoining property if willing sellers, fair market value, and available funding to allow for additional archeology, the creation of larger representations of agricultural fields, and possible recreation of slave quarters and other outbuildings.
- 2. Driveway Access** — Remove circular terminus to provide more green space. Accommodate Public parking at Wall Local and potentially other public institutions. Build accessible paths at the site itself.
- 3. Garage** — Convert Garage to an orientation center at which a video can be shown and from which tours begin. The building may also be large enough to accommodate some small meetings, an admissions desk, and a display rack with free brochures and a limited number of items for sale. The building should include two accessible rest rooms.
- 4. General Restoration of Exterior Features** (the same in all alternatives)
- 5. Shutters** — Restore the shutters, repairing damaged elements, and remaining faithful to the 1936 design.
- 6. Windows and Entrance Door of the Frame House** — Preserve and restore historic façade per local, state, and federal directives.
- 7. Kitchen (West) Porch** — Keep as is.
- 8. Window/Door from Current Library to Exterior** — Reopen the exterior doorway that formerly existed at the north wall of the current library and rebuild the porch, based on the photographs that exist, to provide a connection to the current front door of the log wing.
- 9. Southeast Window/Doorway to the 1936 Kitchen Wing** — Re-open the exterior doorway that formerly existed at the south end of the hallway from the dining room to the kitchen and living room, using it as part of an accessible path into the house by way of a ramp.
- 10. Log Room Interior** — Treat the log room as a teaching environment to tell the story of kitchen spaces and log quarters on the property prior to 1828. Leave log walls exposed; re-open rear (west) door so that access can be made part of an accessible path from an orientation space in the garage; lower the floor to align with the lowest logs; create a floor surface that resembles a dirt floor (possibly tinted concrete with a slightly uneven surface and a sand finish); reinstall the loft floor to serve as a ceiling, using hand-hewn framing members.

**11. Library** — Remove the book cases and other 1936 details, keeping fireplace as it is, restoring surfaces and fixtures to match presumed 1820s-1880s design. Reopen the doorway where the north window is now, in tandem with restoring the missing porch that connected the frame house to the log house. Possibly use as part of the visitor path (though this section would not be accessible for those with disabilities).

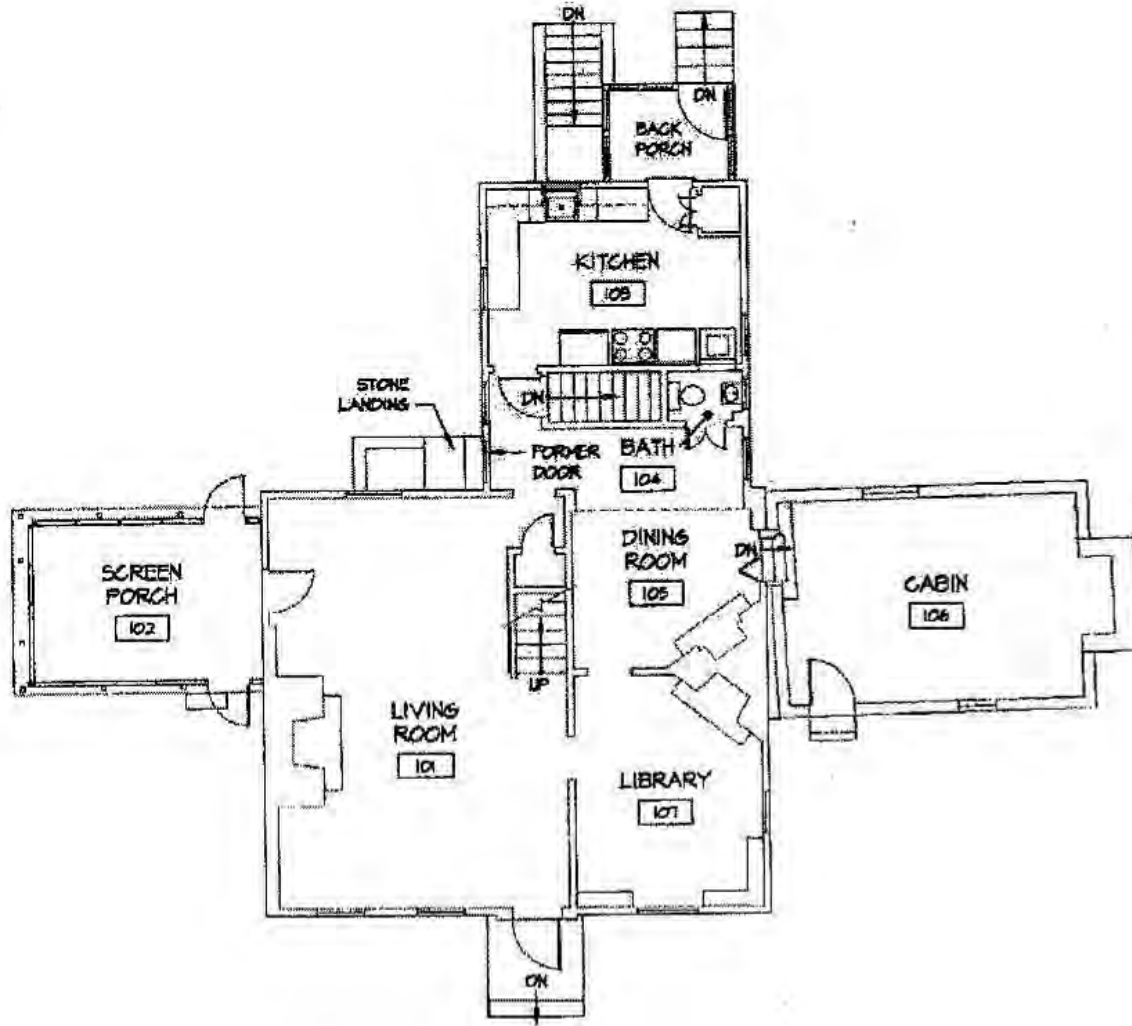
**12. Living Room** — While keeping the plaster, fireplace, window details, and doorway details as they are, use the wall space and floor space for exhibit materials, such as enlarged photographs, interpretive panels, a timeline, display cases, interactive exhibits, etc.

**13. Dining Room** — Return some aspects of the Dining Room to the presumed design before 1936. Remove shelves over fireplace. Reverse other 1936 alterations to fireplace. Possibly interpret the room as a dining room (or, it may have been a bedroom). Use as space for exhibits on both the Henson and Riley stories, perhaps showing the contrast between the formality and higher standard of living in the frame house and the conditions in the log house, seen at a distance looking through the opening that now connects the two rooms.

**14. Kitchen in 1936 Wing** — Remove all appliances. Completely convert the room to contain interpretive exhibits on the plantation experience.

**15. Screened-in Porch** — Completely rebuild this space to provide one more room for the house. New floor should be on level with interior of house, and room should be completely sealed as part of interior space. Use the room to house a research library and possibly a small museum shop.

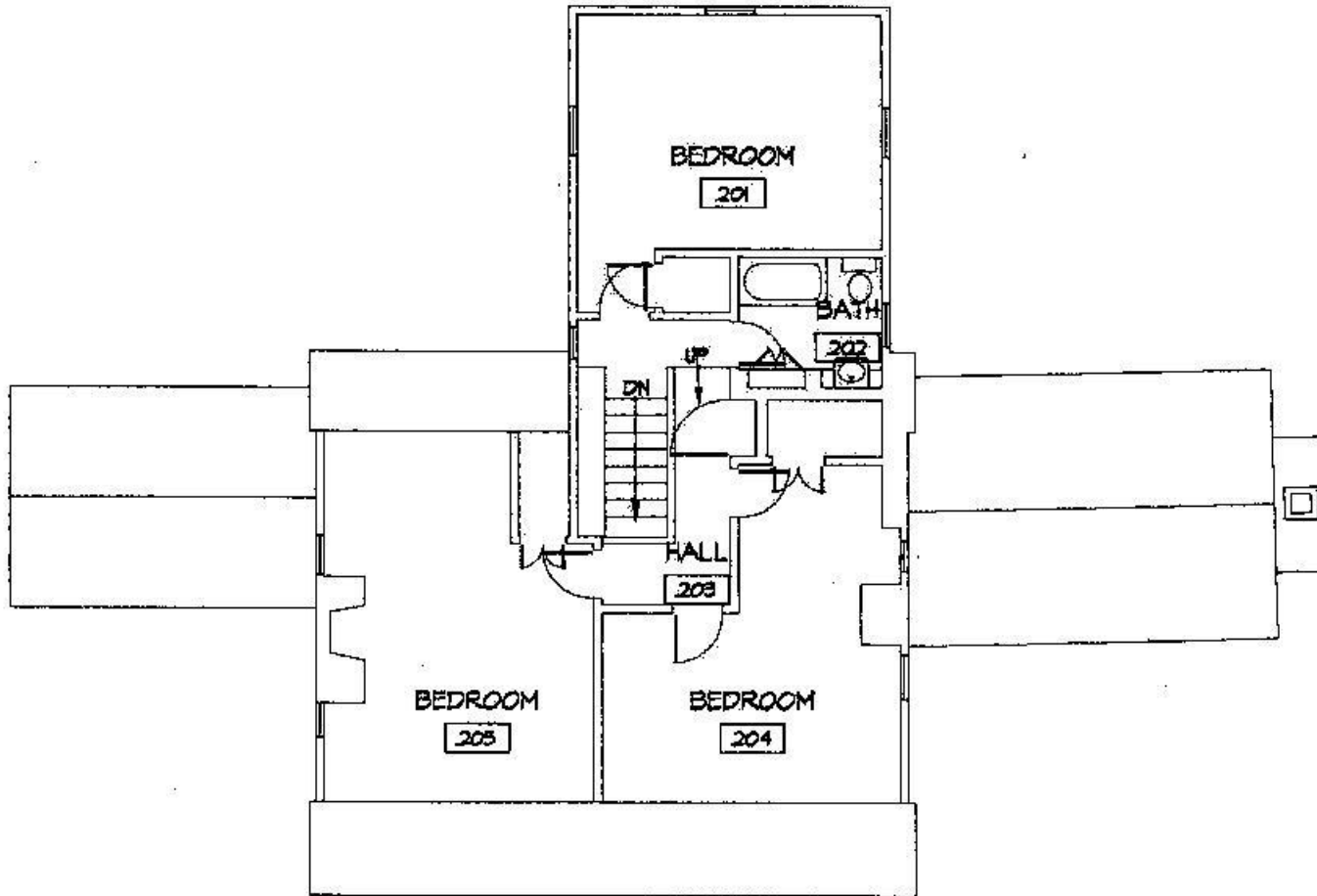
**16. Second Story** — Repair where materials have been damaged without removing or destroying any details shown on the 1936 drawings. Reinforce the floors as needed and provide accessibility features (chair lift or elevator) to allow use by public. Use the space as exhibit space, to the extent that may be allowed by code.



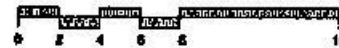
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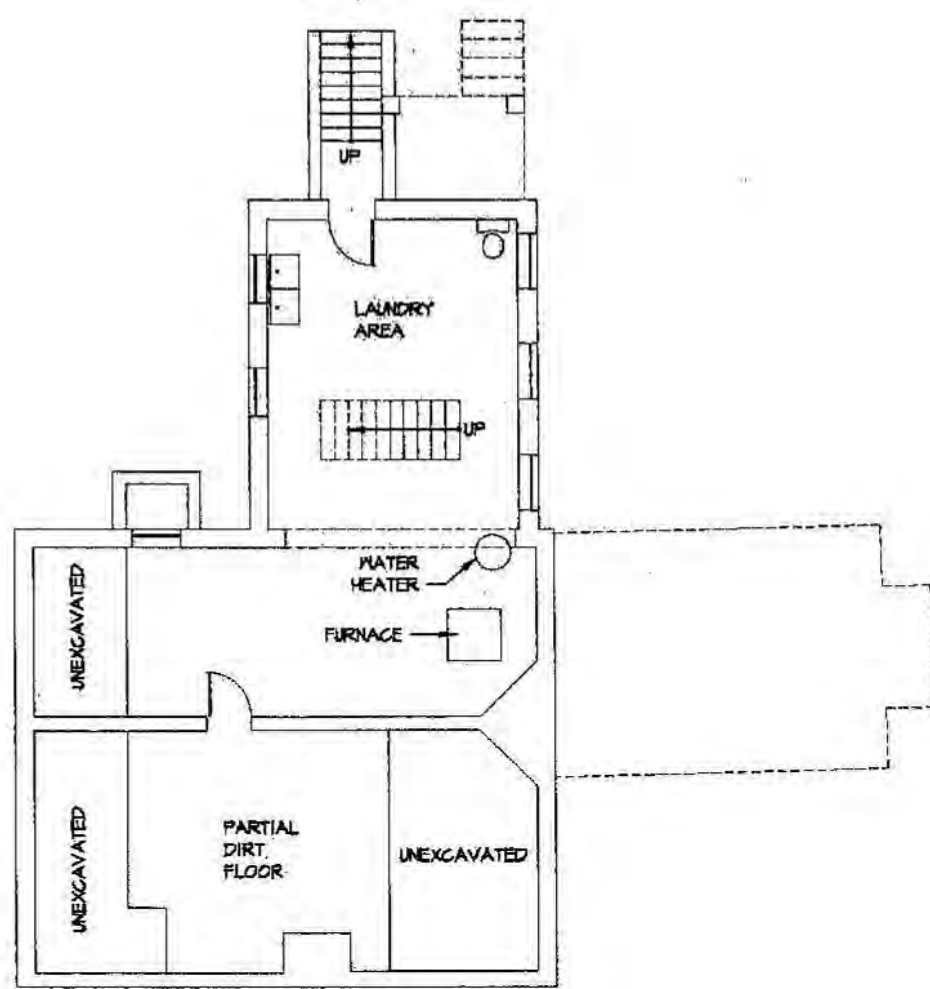






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 **EXISTING BASEMENT**  
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## Appendix 2

### Summary of Public Meetings and Input

#### Public Meeting #1

Tuesday, June 15, 2010. Community Kick-off meeting to identify visions and issues for the project.

#### ***Public Input: Vision and Issues by Category***

Vision Statement Categories	Public Comments
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Josiah Henson's Life</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not ignore prehistoric, continuum of history to present – <b>4 dots</b></li> <li>• Make website as “rich” with information as possible, so that it provides interpretation of the Josiah Henson story. Keep it current with historic archeological discoveries and attract visitors to the site. – <b>4 dots</b></li> <li>• A living museum, w/ re-enactors or people in character – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Make things hands on for kids – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Centrality of Henson/celebrate the man and person (not just novel story) – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Auditory environment to recreate sounds from the times – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Focus on History over archeology – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Influence on inside – more input in context of his/Harriet Beecher Stowe story/abolition/civil war – need timeline start to finish what happened after – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Josiah Henson could be a good platform to talk about history of global slavery in the past and present – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Tours with good, accurate telling of the life story – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Shift from “frozen in time” idea to more organic idea – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Narrated excerpts from his book – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• How to separate the myth of Uncle Tom from the man Josiah Henson – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Museum exhibits on stages of Henson's life – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Website accessibility on site – multi-media access (MP3, iPhone) – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Living history interpreter in costume – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Build site into school curriculum – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Experiential Factor – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• People want to walk where Josiah Henson walked – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Comparison to Uncle Tom's Cabin in Canada – talk to Canada</li> <li>• Hybrid morph of everything</li> </ul>

Vision Statement Categories	Public Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kids relate better to artifacts than architecture</li> <li>• Slavery is not just in the South</li> <li>• Isaac Riley never learned to read and write but Josiah Henson did learn</li> <li>• Slavery has existed for thousands of years. Not just black people – slavery exists today</li> <li>• Story is interesting to students</li> <li>• Site is a trickle in time of his entire life</li> <li>• Kids will ask why important (moral, ethic, spiritual issues)</li> <li>• Need access to Autobiography, not just on internet (maybe in high school curriculum)</li> <li>• Who is Henson – make connection to <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i></li> <li>• ID students in preservation programs for internships</li> <li>• See Canon Prairie in Indiana <a href="http://www.canonprairie.org">www.canonprairie.org</a></li> <li>• How can this be put into MC Public School curriculum – 8th grades?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Montgomery County's History of Slavery</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address denial of slavery in Montgomery County, neighborhood – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Tie into history of Luxmanor i.e. religious and racial covenants – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Tell of the connections/relationships between Josiah Henson and other slaves and plantations in the region. – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Promote greater history of Montgomery County not just west Mo Co trails – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Connect to other antebellum sites in Mo Co - <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Everyone's history – rules of different groups = Mo Co story</li> <li>• Life on plantations in Mo Co</li> <li>• Tying in other sites in County (Sandy Spring, Oakley)</li> <li>• Tie to Underground Railroad</li> <li>• Context of whole historic history of county</li> <li>• Need to make connection to other Mo Co sites</li> <li>• Context – size county, Quakers, Unique mid Atlantic, only free community in Sandy Spring; freedom to hire out</li> <li>• Connect to other attempts at freedom: Georgia Avenue/Rt. 28, escape on the Pearl, Edmonston sister, captured corn field, Miner school.</li> </ul>

Vision Statement Categories	Public Comments
<p><b>Architectural and Historic Landscape Interpretation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationship of present site to its historical landscape – what features still exist that tells the story? – <b>9 dots</b></li> <li>• Raised 3-d scale model showing Riley’s plantation in context with Canty plantation – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• Interpret house as part of living landscape – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Authenticity of house to Henson period at farm, examples of other houses shown original style – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• New building with classrooms – multi-use building, visitor’s center – classroom 35-40 kids</li> <li>• Small museum showing prehistoric as well as historic continuum</li> <li>• Kitchen (rain) garden situated to help treat run-off</li> <li>• Historic Preservation philosophies – landscape is changing – organic neighborhood</li> <li>• Log cabin back to 1850</li> </ul>
<p><b>Archaeological Discovery</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archaeological interpretation on the site – use it to tell the story – <b>8 dots</b></li> <li>• Ongoing archeology on site – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Make archeological process available to visitors, as well as historical and architectural process.</li> </ul>

**Public Input: Issues**

Issues	Public Comments
<p><b>#1 Community Outreach: African American History</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How much African American community input has Parks sought? Still living residents available to obtain authentic experiences. Senior Citizens oral history. Go into churches to inform. Mo Co Channel 21 – watch this channel for city information. Go where black people are. Seven Locks Church. Scotland Area, Travilah Area, Cabin John. Kid volunteers to pass out information. Get word out about project. Mine rich history of existing residents, esp. African American community – <b>11 dots</b></li> <li>• African American community involvement – <b>7 dots</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>#2 Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make Tilden and Old Georgetown Road safer for Pedestrians – <b>4 dots</b></li> <li>• Pedestrian Crossing of Old Georgetown Road (pedestrian overpass) – alternatives – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Concern – pedestrian safety – crossing Old Georgetown Road – <b>2 dots</b></li> <li>• OG Rd. and Tilden Roundabout – according to design concept by Ian Lockwood (decom.com) – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Pedestrian crossing – crossing guards (Old Georgetown) – wire cage elevated crosswalk – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Really need to work with County Department of Transportation(DOT) and MD DOT – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Issue - Disconnect between agencies MNCPPC, County DOT and SHA – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Old Georgetown crossing</li> <li>• White Flint Sector Plan build-out impact on intersections</li> </ul>

Issues	Public Comments
<p><b>#3 Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at adjunct interpretive center offsite on public property in early phase of the park (Wall Park, Tilden MS) – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• How big should the program be? Vis-a vies site size, road access parking – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Concern – parking needs are addressed so community is not driven out by traffic and parking – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Neighborhood traffic /congestion – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Ask synagogue to help with parking – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Suggestions –</li> <li>• portable pavers</li> <li>• shuttles</li> <li>• Bus pull-off on Rozier – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Open as often as possible</li> <li>• Parking and Pedestrians: How about parking at Tilden Middle School?</li> <li>• Share doctor’s offices parking on weekends</li> <li>• Bus access</li> <li>• Monitor crossing if parking buses at the swimming pool</li> <li>• An area plan for traffic – vehicles and pedestrian</li> <li>• One plan: realistic impacts</li> <li>• Establish clear timeframes for visiting - start outside rush hours – 10 – 3, consider reverse commuters arrive earlier</li> <li>• Traffic control in neighborhood</li> </ul>
<p><b>#4 Security of Site</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security: Lighting that doesn’t spill over into neighborhood but makes it safe. Neighborhood watch – <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Security at night etc. (visibility) – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Issue: Rozier house – vagrancies – security issues – fire – park police</li> <li>• Timeline for demolition</li> <li>• Security and Policing (how) especially when closed – night attracts kids</li> <li>• Blair High School in great need of Maintenance</li> </ul>
<p><b>#5 Directional and Interpretive Signage for Park</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent county way finding - ex. UDC walking tours - <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Essential – a connection between Rock Creek Trail (Newport Mill) – significant to Josiah Henson’s life – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Way finding from Trolley Trail and Metro</li> <li>• Visibility – do we want people to be able to see the site from old Georgetown Road?</li> <li>• Connect to interpretive signage at Ken Gar</li> </ul>

Issues	Public Comments
#6 Need for Open Public Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transparency in Process – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Schools, esp. elementary – information on meetings – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Meeting log on website so everyone can see who we are meeting with – <b>1 dot</b></li> </ul>
#7 Need for Additional Park Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider neighbors use of access to the site (could be other than cultural interpretation) (sunrise to sundown): - <b>3 dots</b></li> <li>• Benches</li> <li>• Walking paths</li> <li>• Other casual uses</li> </ul>
#8 Future Acquisition Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition: Expand the site? – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Acquisition of alternative land for parking – <b>1 dot</b></li> </ul>
#9 Site Drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Run-off issues – <b>1 dot</b></li> <li>• Parking – parking run-off</li> </ul>
#10 Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Private Partnerships</li> <li>• County Executive Community Partnerships – Bruce Adams director</li> </ul>

## Summary of Public Input



### Josiah Henson Special Park Master Plan - Public Meeting, June 15, 2010

#### Summary of Public Input

At the Josiah Henson Special Park meeting held on June 15, 2010, the public was asked to provide input on two questions:

**Question #1 - Vision** - What would you like to see offered at the park to help advance the Josiah Henson Story and create a safe and attractive public park?

**Question #2 - Issues** - What are you most concerned about?

#### Vision

The public's response to the vision question for the park has been divided into 4 interpretive categories:

1. Josiah Henson's Life
2. Montgomery County's History of Slavery
3. Architectural and Historic Landscape Interpretation
4. Archaeological Discovery

#### Josiah Henson's Life

The public vision for this incorporates many different types of interpretive programs and displays. They want to see a living museum with re-enactments in costume, exhibits that display the stages of Josiah Henson's life, readings from his autobiography, connections with the site and programs offered in Canada at Henson's Dawn Establishment for freed slaves and programs that educate visitors to the importance of the man, his values and the way he lived his life. They see his story as a way to discuss local slavery issues and worldwide slavery issues. They see the moral, spiritual and ethical issues that surround the story of slavery.

There is a lot of interest in creating a program that can be used to educate Montgomery County School children (possible incorporated into the curriculum) and for the broader student body possibly through an internet based curriculum. There is also an interest to have internships available for students.

The public sees a need for museum space/visitor center space to accommodate school classroom trips, classroom space and to have the space to accommodate museum exhibits and access to Josiah Henson's autobiography in many forms (auditory, interactive) and in multiple languages.

#### Montgomery County's History of Slavery

There were many comments concerning the need to link the history of Josiah Henson to the history of Montgomery County and its role during the slavery period. Current programs in Montgomery County describe the African American experience at Oakley Cabin and programs along the Underground Railroad in Sandy Spring. The public sees this site as another way to make connections to life as a slave, and the desire to be free. Some see this site as a way to discuss the oppression or prejudice against one group of people by another in general.

#### Architectural and Historic Landscape Interpretation

The public is interested in keeping the cabin and house as close to the way it was when Henson was on the plantation. They wanted to understand the relationship of the present site to its historical





### Josiah Henson Special Park Master Plan - Public Meeting, June 15, 2010

plantation landscape (possibly through a model or aerial photos over time) and which features still exist today that tells the story. There is interest in creating an historic kitchen garden (that might also become a community education garden with vegetables and flowers from that period). There is interest in understanding what types of crops were grown on the plantation.

#### Archaeological Discovery

Most of the people who attended the meeting thought it was very important to continue the ongoing archaeology on the site and see the value of having the process available for visitor education and to enable further discoveries about Josiah Henson and life on the plantation.

#### Issues of Concern

The issues raised by the public fall into ten categories (prioritized by number of votes received by the public):

1. Community Outreach: African American History
2. Safe crossings at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane
3. Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking
4. Security of Site
5. Directional and Interpretive Signage for the Park
6. Need for Additional Park Amenities
7. Need for an Open Public Process
8. Future Acquisition Needs
9. Site Drainage
10. Funding

#### Community Outreach: African American History

By far the issue with the greatest number of votes was the need to include the African American Community in the development of the programming and history of the park.

#### Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane

This one intersection near the park was the focus of a lot of the public's concerns about safety. No one felt that this intersection could be safely crossed by pedestrians or bicyclists. There was mention that it was safer to cross mid-block rather than try to walk in the crosswalk, for fear of not being seen by turning and speeding vehicles. Recent efforts by McDOT to calm traffic and reduce cut through traffic on Tilden Lane include the re-stripping of Tilden Lane to provide parking on the north side of the road, a bicycle lane and narrower vehicle travel lanes.

#### Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking

Although interested in having the park open and available for interpretive programs, the public's fear of having too many people and cars at the site was evident by the concerns voiced over how big the program would be and how many events would be planned. Many suggested alternative sites for shared parking including the synagogue next door, the Wall Local Park parking lot (which is currently used for parking for Heritage Day events), parking at the adjacent schools during weekends, etc. The public wants a careful consideration of the traffic being proposed during regular programming and a plan that controls over crowding in the neighborhood during events. There was mention of an adjunct interpretive center off-site.



## Josiah Henson Special Park Master Plan - Public Meeting, June 15, 2010

### **Security of the Site**

The comments in this category mostly related to local concerns and making sure that the park buildings and site were maintained and policed. The neighbors wanted to be sure that any lights needed for evening activities would not spill into their properties. They felt that they could help with watching over the site and informing the Department of any problems with vagrants or activities at night. They expressed concern about the vacant Rozier House.

### **Directional and Interpretive Signage for Park**

The public would like to have informative signage that leads them from many of the nearby or future transportation providers and parking sites to the park "itself". They mentioned having signage from White Flint Metro, Bethesda Trolley Trail, a future trolley bus system around White Flint, and from future parking facilities. Interpretive signage that links the site to other historic sites related to the Henson themes in the county and future walking tours were also mentioned. They wondered if the park should be more visible from Georgetown Road.

### **Need for additional Park Amenities**

The public wanted the site to have some of the typical amenities available at most public parks which included benches, walking paths and picnicking areas. There was mention of having access to the site for adjacent neighbors in addition to a main park entrance way.

### **Need for an Open Public Process**

The public would like to see more transparency in the process and having a website that has schedules and meeting notes provided.

### **Future Acquisition Needs**

The 1.5 acre parcel of the Josiah Henson Special Park is only a fraction of the original +263 acre plantation that made up the Riley Plantation where Josiah Henson lived and worked. People were concerned about the sites' small size in relation to questions about parking needs, interpretive programming possibilities and archaeology discovery.

### **Site Drainage**

Adjacent neighbors did not want improvements to the site to worsen or create drainage problems into their adjoining properties.

### **Funding**

Recognizing the lack of funding for additional programs or improvement to the property, the public mentioned the use of public private partnerships including the County Executive's Community Partnership's program.

## Public Meeting #2

Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010. The public will be able to review the staff response to the public input on issues and visions voiced at the first public meeting. RESCHEDULED:



Josiah Henson Special Park Master Plan - Public Meeting, AUGUST 24, 2010

### Comments from Josiah Henson Public Meeting

August 24, 2010

#### GOAL #1 – Interpret Josiah Henson’s life and the history of slavery in Montgomery County.

Shirl Spicer reviewed the proposed staff plan for interpretation of the Henson Site, while explaining the interpretive themes for the exhibitions and programming.

- Pull together “touchstones/key stories” of Montgomery County, history of Charles Prince home in Rockville. Bring together these three stories that are internationally known:
    1. The Pearl
    2. Escape of Maria Weems
    3. Josiah Henson
  - Underground Railroad See the larger context that Josiah Henson/Isaac Riley Story
    - Beall Dawson connection
    - Edmoston family going to Europe
    - Abolitionists going to Europe
  - Broaden even further to international community
    - Tie to religious community: Methodist
    - Tie to Baltimore
    - Money from Europe and religious community, i.e. Washington Grove, Asbury Methodist
    - Discuss split within Methodist community during the Civil War (Rockville)
    - Punishment: not only violence but other means, such as lack of education
    - Local interpretive programming partner:
      - Menare Foundation – [Living history site] Interpretation of plantation life
      - Myth, Literature, History and Stereotypes:
        - No branches [listed on interpretative theme outline, and the following were suggested:]
          - Relationship between Josiah Henson and “Uncle Tom.”
          - Josiah Henson and his own “myth making.”
          - How Josiah Henson manipulates fame of Stowe’s book to his own advantage.
            - What Josiah Henson establishes in Canada
            - What does Josiah Henson mean to us today? Man vs. myth
              - Teachable moment
  - Garden element for reflection:
    - How stereotypes are still with us today. “How do we change today our role in making a better place?”
    - Reflection/teachable moments
  - Slavery in the modern world
- Interpretive themes will not be restricted to text on walls, but will incorporate programs. Programs are key to the interpretation of the site, such as ongoing programs with partners in county and throughout the country.
- Living history/interpreters
  - Living historians
  - Interpretation will evolve over time
  - From “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” to what it is today



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- Local folklore
- Emphasis on agriculture in county
- Emphasis on economics [in county]: Mills, agriculture, etc.

Archaeology:

Archaeology can locate features that can tell the story of life experiences of others on the property.

- Different perspectives
- Other slaves on property
- Ceramic: Economic social status
- Archaeology can enrich the interpretation.
- Reports, papers, presentations about archaeology

**GOAL #2 – Retain the integrity of the historic architecture and landscape.**

Joey Lampl reviewed the proposed staff plans for retaining the integrity of the Henson Site's historic architecture and landscape.

Bring landscape elements back:

- Agricultural crops
- Willows
- Well
- Make Rozier agricultural

**GOAL #3 – Create a safe accessible site.**

Ed Axler reviewed minutes from the meeting with state and county traffic staff which addressed the public comments from the June 15 public meeting.

**Concerns**

- Number of traffic accidents at Tilden Lane and on Old Georgetown Rd at 270 (non-reported).
- ADA compliance with pedestrian crossing timings.
- Possible incorporation of new pedestrian crossing technology.
- Recommend Tilden and Old Georgetown become a test site for crosswalk technology.
- Suggestion of installing “no right on red”

**Next steps?**

Public contact McDOT and SHA and Senator and legislators and advise of potential dangers.

**Suggestions:**

- Extend pedestrian signal timing.
- Widen pedestrian sidewalk/curb.
- Improve sense of safety for pedestrians.
- Is there interest of parking on western side of Old Georgetown?
- Include study of parking on Old Georgetown.
- Reviewed action items from traffic meeting.
- Seek support from Old Georgetown parking garage developers.



Josiah Henson Special Park Master Plan - Public Meeting, AUGUST 24, 2010

- Thing if installing a historic site specific sign.

**Goal #4 - ADVOCACY: Funding, Friends Groups, Partners. Develop advocacy and fundraising strategies to ensure the viability of the site.**

**Objectives**

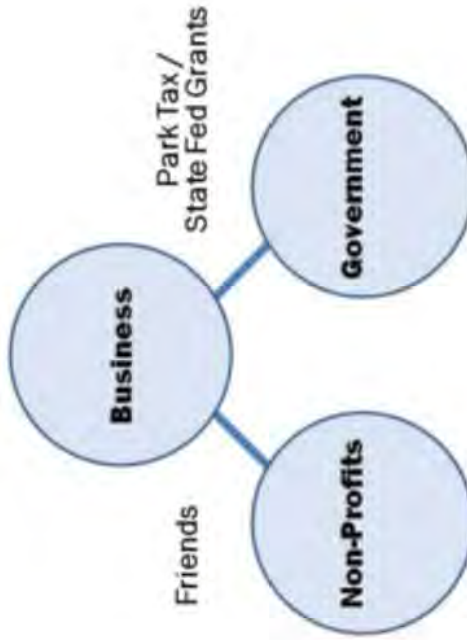
- Establish income streams to support ongoing programming and staffing.
- Establish a volunteer corps to provide interpretive program assistance to serve as advocates within the community and to provide pro bono services in specialty areas, such as development and advocacy.

Jayne Hench, acting chief of Special Programs Division for Parks, discussed the ways to achieve the objectives:

Montgomery County Department of Parks needs to avail ourselves of all available and potential income streams to both fund this project and to develop strong advocates. There are three basic models and we should consider how best to engage each:

1. **Government Model** – funds projects through tax dollars – including Park Tax, bond, POS, etc
2. **Business Model** – includes selling goods and services above cost to generate a profit – could be selling programs, gift shop items, sponsorships, etc.
3. **Non-Profit Model** – supports a mission by fund/friend raising – includes elements like grant writing for private foundation/publicly funded grants, Fundraising appeals, Friends Group development, solicitation of donations (cash/in-kind), planned giving, volunteerism (traditional, pro-bono, interns, corporate), etc.

**Donations Fixed Program**





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### Additional Public Input Received

- Reduce the speed limit on OLD GEORGETOWN RD. to 30 mph in this vicinity. The 40 mph is not appropriate for a "city" situation, which is what White Flint is going to be. Lowering the speed limit to 30 mph on OLD GEORGETOWN RD. between Rockville Pike and Tuckerman Lane would reduce the traffic volume and the speed of traffic in the vicinity of your property. This would prevent traffic moving at 45 mph to speed up to 55 mph or more to "make the light". Reducing the OLD GEORGETOWN RD. speed limit to 30 mph would -- ALONE -- significantly promote and increase pedestrian safety at the OLD GEORGETOWN RD./ Tilden Lane / Nicholson intersection. It would become much safer to cross OLD GEORGETOWN RD. for pedestrians. It would also lower the speed of traffic turning onto Nicholson or Tilden Lane, from OGR.
- Increase the walking time for pedestrians crossing OGR, to meet ADA standards. Reportedly the State and County are already planning to do this.
- Install a "No Right on Red Light" sign for southbound OLD GEORGETOWN RD. traffic, wishing to turn right onto Tilden Lane (westbound). This would make it safer for pedestrians crossing both OLD GEORGETOWN RD. and Tilden Lane in this vicinity.
- Install a raised crosswalk on Tilden Lane just west of the OLD GEORGETOWN RD. intersection. That would greatly reduce slow traffic coming from OGR.
- Eliminate east / west "thru" traffic between Nicholson and Tilden Lane in both directions. This idea would meet resistance, but it would greatly improve the situation and it could be done at this time.
- 1. This would tremendously "calm" traffic in this vicinity.
- 2. This single change would SATISFY the County Council's promise (when it approved the White Flint Sector Plan) to "protect" Luxmanor from non-resident "cut through traffic".
- 3. This would mean traffic on Nicholson or Tilden Lane could no longer travel straight through the intersection, but could only turn left or right onto OGR. Much of the traffic at this intersection is motorists who are in the habit of using this route to drive between Potomac and Wheaton. This was historically a "standard route" for this traffic. Eliminating this would significantly reduce the traffic volume for this OLD GEORGETOWN RD./ Tilden / Nicholson intersection.
- 4. This would eliminate "speeding" on Tilden Lane and Nicholson to "make the light" and then cross the intersection at a high rate of speed. This would make all three roads much safer in this vicinity.
- 5. This would reduce the number of vehicles entering Tilden Lane and speeding, coming down the hill from OLD GEORGETOWN RD. for westbound Tilden Lane traffic.
- 6. It would make parking on Tilden Lane safer, and then walking across Tilden to reach the Henson property (for Henson visitors).
- 7. This would not significantly inconvenience Luxmanor residents, who could still turn left or right onto OLD GEORGETOWN RD. and have other streets they could use to enter or exit the neighborhood.
- 8. Residents from Old Farm and Tilden Woods would not be unduly affected - because they can now conveniently enter and exit their neighborhoods via Montrose Road and the NEW Montrose Parkway (that cost many millions of dollars).
- Encourage changes to reduce school bus traffic using this intersection. For example, the Green Acres School could be given their own entrance and exit from Executive Boulevard or Montrose



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Parkway. Also, the County could arrange to have school buses enter via other streets, rather than rely exclusively on Tilden Lane.

- Again, I believe that the White Flint developers' traffic consultants would be the best source of advice for you. Their primary theme is "pedestrian friendly", "walkability", and reducing the vehicles. They WANT pedestrians to be able to walk from the Luxmanor area over to White Flint. The traffic using this intersection that could use other routes is significant. It would be better to change old habits now. The traffic engineers are the experts and their ideas will be much better and more comprehensive than anything I could come up with.
- You had also said that currently a parking lot is proposed for the Rosier property directly adjacent and to the south of the Henson/Riley property. I want to emphasize, as I said on the phone, this is a rare opportunity to put in some agricultural model land down county, rather than pave it over with yet another parking lot. I would assume you are targeting a period of significance that includes the pre-Civil War era, and possibly a model farm from that time period would be considered. I believe the property was occupied in the 18th century as well, however, and of course post-Civil War, the late-19th and 20th-century period of tenant farms has been sorely overlooked in the county from what I can tell.
- Also, given that the thrust of the Planning Board is to make WF a walkable area, it would be in keeping with that planning to make sure visitors take metro and walk to this park. It would also be in keeping with the 'feel' and the viewshed of this historic site that a parking lot is not built next door to it.
- You also mentioned the number of visitors at ~16,000. That is significantly more than we now have, and more, I believe, than my neighbors were anticipating, so I would assume, and I believe my neighbors do too, that parking and traffic would be elsewhere, in the WF Sector, and nowhere near Old Georgetown and our residential neighborhood.

## Appendix 3

### Traffic Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Minutes for  
Transportation-Related Topics associated with Josiah Henson Special Park  
August 10, 2010 at MCDOT Gaithersburg Office**

- A. Meeting Purpose:** To prepare for the next/2nd scheduled public meeting on August 24, 2010 by coordinating with MCDOT on traffic-related issues.

**LIST OF ATTENDEES**

Name	Phone Number	E-Mail	Agency - Role
Ed Axler	301-495-4536	<a href="mailto:ed.axler@mncpc-mc.org">ed.axler@mncpc-mc.org</a>	MRO Transportation Planning APF
Tom Shoemaker	240-777-2161	<a href="mailto:tom.shoemaker@montgomerycountymd.gov">tom.shoemaker@montgomerycountymd.gov</a>	MCDOT- Street lighting
Fred Lees	240-777-2196	<a href="mailto:fred.lees@montgomerycountymd.gov">fred.lees@montgomerycountymd.gov</a>	MCDOT- Operational Traffic Studies
Peggy Schwartz	301-770-8108	<a href="mailto:pschwartz@nbtmd.org">pschwartz@nbtmd.org</a>	North Beth. TMD- Trip Mitigation
Stacy Coletta	240-777-5836	<a href="mailto:stacy.coletta@montgomerycountymd.gov">stacy.coletta@montgomerycountymd.gov</a>	MCDOT, DTS - Ride-On Bus Stops
Youcef Hamroun	1-301-512-7481	<a href="mailto:YHamroun@sha.state.md.us">YHamroun@sha.state.md.us</a>	MD SHA District 3 Traffic
Brooke Farquhar	301-650-4388	<a href="mailto:brooke.farquhar@montgomeryparks.org">brooke.farquhar@montgomeryparks.org</a>	Parks- Planning & Trails Supervisor
Rachel Newhouse	301-650-4368	<a href="mailto:rachel.newhouse@montgomeryparks.org">rachel.newhouse@montgomeryparks.org</a>	Parks- Master Plan Project manager
Will Haynes	240-777-2132	<a href="mailto:william.haynes@montgomerycountymd.gov">william.haynes@montgomerycountymd.gov</a>	MCDOT - Pedestrian Safety
Randy Paugh	240-777-7608	<a href="mailto:randy.paugh@montgomerycountymd.gov">randy.paugh@montgomerycountymd.gov</a>	MCDOT - Tilden Lane Project
Eileen Emmet	301-495-2550	<a href="mailto:eileen.emmet@mncpc-mc.org">eileen.emmet@mncpc-mc.org</a>	Parks- Facility Planning Project Manager
Corren Giles	1-410-545-5595	<a href="mailto:Cgiles@sha.state.md.us">Cgiles@sha.state.md.us</a>	MD SHA Access Permits
Nkosi Yearwood	301-495-1332	<a href="mailto:nkosi.yearwood@mncpc-mc.org">nkosi.yearwood@mncpc-mc.org</a>	MRO Planning - Master Plan Review
Shiril Spicer	301-650-4373	<a href="mailto:shiril.spicer@montgomeryparks.org">shiril.spicer@montgomeryparks.org</a>	Parks Project's Museum Manager

**B. Introduction to the Josiah Henson Special Park**

1. Project Manager of the Master Plan, Rachel Newhouse:  
Project schedule: Next public meeting is scheduled on August 24<sup>th</sup>, followed by staff draft presentation to the PB in September, and a PB public hearing on October 28.
2. Project Manager of the Facility Planning Project, Eileen Emmet:  
After the Master Plan process, the Facility Plan will follow by developing 30% design plans.

**C. Safe pedestrian crossing of Old Georgetown Road at the intersection with Tilden Lane/Nicholson Lane.**

1. Pedestrian Signal Timing-Citizen's concerns regarding inadequate time for pedestrians to cross Old Georgetown Road
  - a) Currently, the Tilden Lane/Nicholson Lane approaches operate as a split signal phasing (i.e., one approach has a green signal, while the other opposite approach has a red signal.
  - b) The SHA "controls" the signal timing and has final approval of any signal timing or geometric changes (Old Georgetown Road is State Route, MD 187).
  - c) The MCDOT operates the traffic signals as part of their countywide computerized traffic signal control system.
  - d) Suggested improvements by Public agencies to address the citizen's concerns:
    - 1) Installation of pedestrian count-down signal heads.
    - 2) Now being installed at most signalized intersections in the County.
    - 3) Widen the Old Georgetown Road median to provide a pedestrian refuge median:  
A refuge island in the middle of the intersection is not needed because pedestrian signal timing is set to provide enough time for pedestrians to walk between opposing curbs.
    - 4) Prohibit RTOR from southbound Old Georgetown Road to westbound Tilden Lane to prevent conflicts between free right-turning vehicles with pedestrians:  
The "rules of the road" should require motorist to stop for pedestrians before turning right on red.
    - 4) Install signs to warn motorists turning left that conflicting pedestrian movements crossing Old Georgetown Road might be occurring:



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Pedestrian crossing time would start after left turns (particularly from) from Nicholson Lane are stopped.

- 5) Construct a pedestrian overpass over Old Georgetown Road:  
An overpass is not warranted, its construction costs are too prohibited, and insufficient right-of-way is available for the long landing that is required to satisfy ADA's grade requirements.
  - 6) Convert the intersection into a roundabout:  
The existing right-of-way is insufficient and, thus, would require "taking" the adjacent properties.
  - 7) Eliminate east-west or Nicholson Lane/Tilden Lane through traffic:  
Not feasible because public interconnectivity to and from neighborhoods is essential and needed for school bus access to Luxmanor Elementary School.
- e) Other suggested improvement by SHA and MCDOT staff:
- 1) Will Haynes: Relocate the pedestrian push button to be at the starting point of crosswalks.
  - 2) Corren Giles: Realign the crosswalks to be perpendicular and the shortest path to cross the intersection.
  - 3) Fred Lees: Priority is given to improve "unsafe" pedestrian intersection crossings over improving the "undesirable" operational" conditions.

**D. Initiate improvements by the Project Manager, Rachel Newhouse:**

1. Write to the SHA District 3's Assistant Traffic Engineer, Anyesha Mookherjee, at Maryland SHA, 9300 Kenilworth Avenue, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or [AMookherjee@SHA.state.md.us](mailto:AMookherjee@SHA.state.md.us). She is currently on maternity leave and will return after Labor Day, but is checking her e-mails and will forward to the appropriate person.
2. After SHA and MCDOT investigation, a detailed traffic engineering study is needed that would be prepared by the Facility Planning Project's selected consultant. The study should include the existing traffic conditions and future build-out conditions.

**E. Any improvement would be funded and implemented by the "developer" or, in this case, the Parks Department.**

Possible source of funded could be using North Bethesda developer's PAMR (i.e., at \$11,300 per PAMR trip) payment directed towards improvements located in North Bethesda. MCDOT's Gary Erenrich must approve the transfer of the PAMR funds to Parks Department and into an established Park's CIP project.

**F. Suggested improvement of a mid-block crossing of Old Georgetown Road directly across from the Josiah Hensen Park site:**

A mid-block crossing is unsafe for pedestrians to cross because drivers do not expect pedestrians to be present.

**G. Ride-on Bus Stops on Old Georgetown Road (lead by Stacy Collita):**

1. Relocate the nearest bus stop at the southwest corner of Old Georgetown Road/Tilden Lane-Nicholson Lane intersection southward closer to the Josiah Hensen site:  
MCDOT does not supported mid-block bus stops because they are more disrupted to the traffic flow and harder for bus to pull out from compared with the existing far side bus stop. In addition, the current spacing between bus stops is at the preferred 550 feet apart.
2. Ride-On route 26 operates on Old Georgetown Road with service to/from the White Flint Metrorail Station and peak-hour scheduled 30-minutes between buses.

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- a) The largest current ridership is occurring at the southbound far side bus stop on Old Georgetown Road at intersection with Tilden Lane-Nicholson Lane with 65 boarding and 50 alighting.
- b) Based on the current transit usage, the bus stop should be improved as follows:
  - 1) Move the bus stop 10 feet back from the curb.
  - 2) Improve the ADA accessibility.
  - 3) Install a bus shelter that would be one of the standard Clean Channel (with commercial ad space) design with the smallest footprint.
  - 4) SHA permits would be needed.
- 3. The other bus stops on Old Georgetown Road have a fewer number of boarding and alighting.
- 4. The existing right-of-way along the southbound/west side of Georgetown Road is sufficient to install bus shelters. However, the right-of-way along on the northbound/eastside of Old Georgetown Road is not sufficient to install a bus shelter.
- H. Site access from Old Georgetown Road:**
  - 1. SHA would require either combining the Josiah Hensen site and house curb cuts or permitting a one-way right-turn in/right-turn out combination.
  - 2. Any non-residential curb cut is considered to be "commercial".
  - 3. Parks Department must submit a concept plan for SHA approval.
- I. Bus access to/from Old Georgetown Road and on-site circulation:**
  - 1. Bus pull off lane along Old Georgetown Road was discussed.
  - 2. Minimum required setback from intersection with Tilden Lane/Nicholson Lane.
  - 3. Depending on the proposed scheduled bus arrivals, may need to bays. Adequate distance from the intersection at Tilden Lane/Nicholson Lane is required to store one bay for a boarding/alighting and another bus waiting behind it.
  - 4. Consider alternate designs for right turn into the site, bus drop-off/pick-up, and right-turn out of the site.
  - 5. Master Plan to develop "sketch plan concept" drawings with dimension while the Facility Planning would develop the details.
- J. Off-site parking locations are under consideration at Luxmanor Elementary School, Tilden Middle School, and Wall Park.**
- K. A visual buffer could be provided by planting trees in Old Georgetown right-of-way with SHA approval.**
- L. Street Lighting (lead by Tom Shoemaker):**
  - 1. The "developer" (or Parks Department) would pay for the street lighting improvements.
  - 2. Currently wooden Pepco poles with street lighting fixtures are along the nearby segment of Old Georgetown Road (preferred spacing between lighting fixtures is between 150 and 200 feet).
  - 3. Project manager, Rachel Newhouse, should write to Emil Wolanin to request improvements.
  - 4. Prevent spill-over lighting by using cut-off flat lighting on the site.
- M. WMATA White Flint Metrorail Station way finder signs of nearby activity centers include maps, descriptions, and which bus route serves that site.**
- N. North Bethesda Trail signs direct users to Josiah Hensen site.**
- O. MCDOT's Tilden Lane Project is not related to the Josiah Hensen Project other than the public meeting being a forum for citizens to state their concerns about local traffic issues.**
- P. Other traffic suggestion:**
- Q. Reducing the speed limit to 35 mph on Old Georgetown Road is beyond the control of this project. ADJOURN (20 minutes early)**

**Appendix 4**

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