

Robert Katz
MLK Memorial

MARTIN LUTHER KING MEMORIAL COMPETITION
FOR THE CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE

INTRODUCTION

In 1795, while the people of Europe were reeling from the unrest and violence of the French Revolution, the German poet and physician Friedrich Schiller wrote, *“Humanity has lost its dignity, but art has rescued and preserved it in stone”*.

Over two centuries later, the City of Portland will select a public art project to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) whose life’s mission was to confront, heal and inspire an imperfect and flawed society. Through non-violence and civil disobedience, MLK and many others in the civil rights movement, worked to eradicate racial inequality and economic disparity, and to reclaim the dignity of America.

Through creative and critical expression, we have the ability to construct a bold and transformative memorial that serves as a template for understanding this period of our nation’s history. Specifically, our proposed design will focus upon the contributions of MLK whose courage and determination continues to provide us with a road map in our collective quest for social justice for all people.

Innovative design concepts do not necessarily come through the vision of one individual, but rather through the collaborative efforts of a team whose members possess various capabilities and sensibilities. Design solutions thrive in partnerships that allow for the uncensored brainstorming of ideas and options.

Our team consists of designers, architects and historians with varied, but complementary, expertise. Each member has contributed to our proposed concept and will continue to work in partnership if we have the opportunity to move forward with this project.

As requested in the RFQ, this document provides the selection committee with insight into our concept and vision, as well as an overview of the diverse skills and knowledge of our design team.

Robert Katz 2019

THE TEAM: BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARIES

Robert Katz, Artist and educator. (www.robertkatzsculptor.com)

Robert Katz is the principal designer of this project. Thirty-eight years ago, he established a studio in Central Maine, and, since then, has created a body of work that has been exhibited throughout the country and the world. In addition to his welded steel sculptures, he has worked on numerous large scale public art projects. Recently, he was one of seven North American artists to be invited to exhibit his work at the prestigious Jiangsu Art Academy in China. In 2018, his sculptural installation entitled *The Five Books of Moses* was added to the permanent collection of the List Visual Arts Center and installed on the campus of MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

For three decades, Robert has taught 3-D design and sculpture classes at the University of Maine at Augusta. He also has served as a visiting artist/educator at various institutions in the United States, Europe and China, including at the Seeds of Peace International Camp in Otisfield, where he worked with young adults from the Middle East.

Robert has experience successfully navigating and incorporating the needs of local communities in his public art. His outdoor projects often include students and community in collaborative efforts. He has received three Maine Percent for Art commissions, the results of which can be seen at schools in Waldoboro, Fairfield and Auburn. In an international design competition in 1989, Robert was awarded a commission to design and build an outdoor Holocaust memorial in New York. This project was fabricated at the TW Dick Steel Company in Gardiner and assembled at its New York site. He also designed and built the *Slivka Holocaust Memorial* at Temple Beth El on Deering Street in Portland.

Robert's seminal work was the creation of *Were the House Still Standing*, an indoor installation project that took four years to complete for the newly constructed Michael Klahr Center (the Center) in Augusta. This collaborative project includes the design of an indoor theater, four video streams, illumination, audio and text, weaving together the testimony of sixteen Maine citizens who were witness to one of the darkest moments in contemporary world history. This project has been viewed by thousands of educators and students in Maine, as well as in England, Poland, Israel and China. Last year, it was featured at the Nexus Center

for the Humanities in Newfoundland, at the Canadian Immigration Museum in Halifax, and again this past spring at the World Affairs Council in Vermont.

“Katz’s art challenges us to explore our emotional reaction to events. It is an artwork that utilizes symbols and a rich visual language enabling us to join our inner humanity with intellect, so as to overcome paralysis and make possible a communal quest for moral imperative”.

Laura Petovello, Program Director of the Education Institute, Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine.

Douglas Quin, Digital/sound designer and educator.

Douglas brings a unique and personal perspective to this project. When he was a young boy, his father was a diplomat. MLK’s parents, Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta King, stayed with Douglas’ family in Stockholm, Sweden, while their son was being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2002, Douglas reconnected with the MLK family through his work as the designer of the exhibition, *Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America* at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site in Atlanta. He had the opportunity to spend considerable time with Coretta Scott King, reminiscing about their families’ connection and her husband’s legacy.

Douglas earned his MFA degree from Tufts University and a PhD in acoustic ecology from the Union Institute and University. He is currently an associate professor at Syracuse University in the S. I. Newhouse School of Communications. He is a world-renowned sound and multimedia exhibit designer, composer and educator. He has created the sound design for numerous films including: Werner Herzog’s Academy Award nominated film *Encounters at the End of the World*; *Jurassic Park 3* and *Lord of the Rings*. He has also created the soundscapes for exhibitions at the Smithsonian Institute and the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. His compositions have been performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington and at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina. He is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Science Foundation.

Douglas’s contribution to our MLK Memorial design will allow us to integrate an innovative and interactive digital component that will establish a programming dimension and access beyond the physical site.

Chris Myers Asch, Civil Rights Historian, Author, Educator and Community Activist

Chris is the co-founder and director of The Capitol Area New Mainers Project. His efforts and commitment have resulted in the safe and successful resettlement of numerous immigrant families in Central Maine. In 1998, after serving with Teach for America in the Mississippi Delta, he cofounded The Sunflower Country Freedom Project, a successful education and leadership program for youth in rural Mississippi, which now has three sites across the state. He has taught history at the University of the District of Columbia and currently teaches history classes at Colby College. He earned his PhD from the University of North Carolina.

Chris is the author of two acclaimed books about civil rights in America that include *The Senator and the Sharecropper*; *The Freedom Struggles of James O. Eastland and Fannie Lou Hamer* and, most recently, *Chocolate City: Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital*.

Chris has a deep understanding of the civil rights struggle in America and the role that MLK played in the movement. His knowledge and experience will ensure the accuracy of the narratives that we develop for this memorial.

Ben McDorr, Graphic Artist and Designer

Ben has lived and worked in Portland. His pen and ink renderings of Portland neighborhoods and architecture reveal a keen understanding of the Portland landscape. He is currently a designer and draftsman at Bath Iron Works.

In addition, Ben has considerable experience in 3-D modeling and visualization, as well as the fabrication and installation of graphic signage.

Arielle Cousins and Benjamin Stoodley, Architectural Designers.

Arielle and Benjamin both earned their Bachelor of Architecture degrees from the University of Maine at Augusta. Benjamin is currently employed by WBRC Architects/Engineers in Portland. Arielle is employed by Priestley and Associates Architecture located in Rockport. As a team of young architectural designers, they will bring to this project their software skills as well as their ability to develop schematic plans and construction documents. They also have substantial experience in civil engineering and landscaping.

THE SITE ON THE BAYSIDE TRAIL

We have had the opportunity to spend considerable time at the site.



Four observations will influence the memorial design:

1. *The openness and infusion of sunlight.* The landscape of Maine is often filled with dense forest or urban congestion. The site on the Bayside Trail is not encumbered by these elements and allows for a sense of airiness and light. Our memorial design will maintain this sense of openness and will be infused with natural sunlight.
2. *The traffic flow.* At any time of day, joggers, bicyclists and pedestrians of all ages, some with dogs or carriages, move through this juncture. Our design proposal will not place obstacles on this path, but will allow pedestrians to move seamlessly through the memorial site. The memorial will create a visual dialogue and engage with the viewer without overshadowing the existing function. It will be a destination and serve as a gateway to the trail.
3. *A refuge.* The site is used as a refuge from the proximity of the busy streets of the city and a quiet repose from the challenges of urban life. Our memorial design will provide greater access and establish more areas for rest, reflection and stillness. The design will also be sensitive to children visiting the site and will incorporate forms and space in a way to encourage exploration and play.

4. *A gathering place.* The topography of the site lends itself to a natural gathering place for performances, music and discussion. Our design enhances this unique characteristic and will encourage a continuum of community gatherings. In particular, we envision numerous school groups visiting the site to be inspired and to gain a greater insight into MLK’s life and achievements.

THE MEMORIAL CONCEPT

Written by Robert Katz, Chris Myers Asch and Douglas Quin

As a port city, Portland welcomes the world to Maine’s shores. People, goods, and ideas from all over the world come to Portland to create a vibrant, diverse community unlike any other in Maine. Portland prides itself on being a welcoming, inclusive city on the forefront of universal struggles for human rights and social justice. In this public artwork, we build (quite literally) on this rich Portland heritage by transforming the site into an amphitheater with its focal point directed towards a “welcome table,” a symbol of equality that will bring people together to learn, reflect, and share experiences.

Utilizing the existing topography of the site, the semicircular amphitheater will echo its existing contours and be constructed with blocks of granite, creating a natural curve of seating areas.



Possible source of granite blocks

This feature of the memorial is inspired by the ancient Greek word for amphitheater (“theatric”) meaning a “place for viewing,” as well as the Greek origin of the word “democracy,” (“democratia”) which literally means “rule by

people”, essentially through voting. That powerful act of voting continues to be a cornerstone of western democracy and a fundamental fairness principle for which MLK fought throughout his years as a civil rights leader.



Theatre of Dionysos Eleutheros, Athens

For MLK in particular, and civil rights activists in general, the “welcome table” (also called the “table of brotherhood”) was an ongoing motif used to evoke a model of freedom and equality, an aspirational goal to be enjoyed after the struggles of the movement had been won. The idea of a “welcome table” has its roots in the New Testament as a place where all of God’s children would sit and share equally in the bounty. Enslaved African Americans expressed this hope for heavenly justice in the spiritual, “I’m Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table”:

*All God’s children going to sit together
All God’s children going to sit together
One of these days, hallelujah
All God’s children going to sit together
God’s children gonna sit together one of these days.*

*I’m going to sit at the Welcome Table
I’m going to sit at the Welcome Table
One of these days, hallelujah*

*I’m going to sit at the Welcome Table
Sit at the Welcome Table one of these days.*

During the civil rights movement, activists reshaped the lyrics to express hopes for more earthly rewards that could be achieved through nonviolent direct action:

*I'm gonna sit at the welcome table,
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, Hallelujah!
I'm gonna get my civil rights one of these days.*

*I'm gonna sit at the Woolworth counter,
I'm gonna sit at the Woolworth counter one of these days, Hallelujah!
I'm gonna sit at the Woolworth counter one of these days.*

MLK often invoked a table to symbolize equality. Though known for his speeches and protest marches, MLK argued that the point of nonviolent direct action was to force recalcitrant leaders to sit down at the negotiating table. He first vaulted into national prominence as a 26-year-old minister in Montgomery, Alabama, when he led a series of protests demanding an end to racial segregation on city buses. His primary demand to city leaders was to sit down together around a table to negotiate an amicable settlement; when they refused, MLK pursued a boycott that lasted more than a year and ultimately led to the movement's victory in the Supreme Court.

In his famous "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, MLK used the image of an egalitarian table as part of his stirring vision of a welcoming, inclusive America:

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.' I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood."

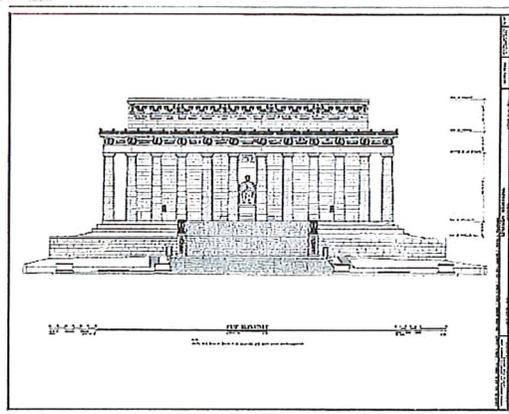
This segment of MLK's speech will be engraved into the granite blocks encircling the amphitheater. This idea symbolized his understanding of the basic equality of all humanity. As he said in his last Christmas sermon at Ebenezer Baptist Church:

"One day somebody should remind us that, even though there may be political and ideological differences between us, the Vietnamese are our brothers, the Russians are our brothers, the Chinese are our brothers; and one day we've got to sit down together at the table of brotherhood."

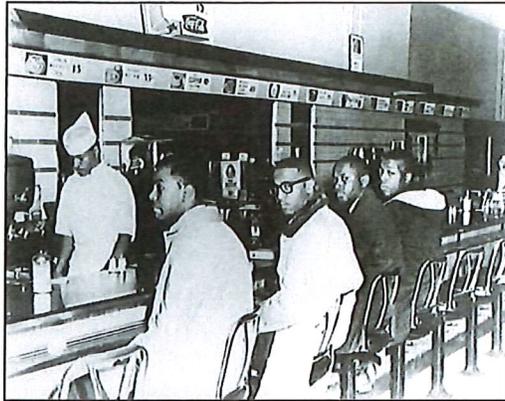
The welcome table that we design will be fabricated from corten steel. On its surface, there will be a topographic pathway that guides us through MLK's journey from his birth in Atlanta in 1929 to his significant engagements with the civil rights movement starting in 1955. The path then follows his route to the

Montgomery bus boycott; the founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference 1957; the Albany movement in 1961; the Birmingham campaign in 1963; the 1963 March on Washington; the St. Augustine movement in 1964; the Selma voting rights movement of 1965; the Chicago open housing movement 1966; his anti-Vietnam War speech at New York's Riverside Church; and the Poor People's Campaign and his assassination in Memphis, 1968. Markers will be placed along this tabletop trail.

In the center of this pathway will be a minimalist, sculptured replica of the Lincoln Memorial sitting on top of the eighteenth step on which MLK gave his most stirring speech to a crowd of 300,000 people.



Our memorial design does not include a representational likeness of MLK because our focus is upon his achievements. However, surrounding the welcome table, there will be thirteen columns that will stand 5'7" tall, the height of MLK himself. Each column represents one of the thirteen years that MLK dedicated himself to the civil rights movement. Additionally, these columns, fabricated with black, polished granite and steel, will symbolize the lunch counter stools on which African American activists staged peaceful demonstrations, seeking recognition of their equality, humanity, and dignity in an unwelcoming and segregated South. These courageous acts then became the impetus for the sit-in movement, providing momentum for MLK's nonviolent campaigns.



The memorial site will be embellished with natural landscaping that will heighten the visual and emotional experience. This will include sustainable gardens of perennial flowers, shrubs, and an array of blossoming trees creating a rich oasis of natural beauty within a commercial and industrial area.

As a complement to the permanent, physical and sculptural memorial, we propose developing a multimedia, application-based (“app”) or a smart phone-friendly website. This technology is conceived as an audio-visual tour companion to the site where visitors can stop at various milestone moments on MLK’s journey from Montgomery to Memphis. This content will be organized thematically and include brief historical media artifacts, including short excerpts of radio and television speeches and interviews with MLK and his circle, as well as news reports covering the civil rights movement—both past and present. By including this media aspect in the memorial, content can be renewed and refreshed with new and topical Quick Response Code information and, as such, reflect the enduring legacy of MLK.

Of equal importance, we propose having young people read passages from MLK’s writings and possibly share some of their own journeys and reflections on the idea and reality of “the welcome table.” The young readers will be drawn from a cross-section of Portland and neighboring communities, including recent immigrants.

Another important consideration for this technological component is to allow people to explore themes and ideas both individually and collectively. The intersection of the physical experience of place and virtual ephemera are key to our idea of making this a living memorial rather than a static monument.

The app would be designed with simplicity and broad accessibility in mind. Smartphones are increasingly ubiquitous as is internet connectivity. Content would be cloud- or server-based and accessed via the internet—both on-site and off. As visitors explore the memorial site and moments in MLK’s life, the app can either

or page when in a given area of the site, or b) function via the Quick Response Code (QRC), where a choice can be made to launch the app. Our vision for this component of the design is to provide visitors with mediated moments to enrich their visceral appreciation and experience of the site while prompting inquiry, conversation and connection. Links to more resources will be included for post-site exploration and learning.

CONCLUSION

Professor James Young from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, articulates the relevance of a memorial:

The usual aim in any nation's monuments, is not solely to displace memory, or to remake it in one's own image; it is also to invite the collaboration of the community in acts of remembrance. To the extent that the myths or ideals embedded in a nation's monuments are the people's own, they are given substance and weight by the reification and will appear natural and true; hence, an inescapable partnership grows between a people and its monuments.

It is not to monuments as such that we turn for remembrance, but to ourselves within the reflective space they both occupy and open up.

In these troubled times, when our country remains divided by political, racial and religious differences, the lessons that we learn from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. remains more important than ever. The MLK memorial, in the City of Portland, will ensure that his legacy continues to inspire current and future generations of the people of Maine and beyond.

Evan Haynes
23 Crows Nest Drive
Freeport, Maine 04032
626-375-0042
ewhaynes413@gmail.com
www.evanhaynes.com

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald, Councilor Duson, Reverend Lewis and the Selection Committee,

Evan Haynes, Artist and TJD&A, Landscape Architects are pleased to submit this letter of interest and qualifications package for RFQ 19092, the proposed Martin Luther King Memorial for the Bayside Trail in Portland. These materials have been developed and submitted based upon information contained in the Request for Qualifications and addendums issued by the City, our past experience with memorials, civic and trail projects, and our knowledge of the project area.

We feel that our Design Team has the research, planning, design, outreach, and organizational experience necessary to effectively address the Memorial's complex set of issues and complete this effort with excellence. The MLK Memorial presents an exciting opportunity for the community and the City at large, providing, as the Selection Committee states, "a focal point for our continuing commitment to combat prejudice, racism and discrimination and work affirmatively to promote social justice".

Our initial vision is one in which the Dr. King's memorial will:

- Result from an open process that invites participation from all citizens.
- Provide opportunities for citizens and visitors to learn about Martin Luther
- King and his message of responsible citizenship, freedom, and democracy.
- Function as a gathering place, a contemplative ceremonial space, a place for serious discussion, and a place for joy.
- Be a catalyst for community programs to take root and nurture the interests and aspirations of Bayside and all citizens.
- Further the objectives of the Bayside Trail and align with the City's stated goals of incorporating the visual arts into public spaces

The following narrative expands on this vision and provides the committee a greater understanding of our approach at this point. We have also included statements and MLK Memorial background information on the individuals involved in the team, showing the breadth of experience that we bring to the design of the Martin Luther King Memorial.

Context

Both TJD&A and Evan Haynes have a history of involvement with the City of Portland through various projects. Our experience allows us to see the MLK memorial project in the context of other design and planning initiatives in Bayside and elsewhere on the peninsula. We will focus on the opportunities that exist at the memorial's chosen site on the Bayside Trail, while being sensitive to the larger history of development in Bayside. Other open spaces (intriguingly named after Lincoln and Kennedy), other trail systems such as the Portland Freedom Trail, the Armenian Genocide Memorial, and community arts projects, like the Welcome Feast produced at Kennedy Field by TEMPOart, provide a context of possible symbiotic relationships.

Community Process

This design team has a commitment to community engagement in its work. A forum for all people to be heard in planning and design discussions is a key ingredient to the success of any public art installation and will be an integral part of our proposal. We actively participated in a number of outreach and listening sessions held as part of the previous MLK RFP 10 years ago. While that set of public comments is still relevant, the social climate in the City, the nation, and the world has changed in the last decade and it seems important to us to ask members of the Greater Portland community, again, what their goals and visions are for the memorial.

Similarly, we anticipate a continuing dialogue with the Committee throughout the process. As artists and designers, we are charged with creating the form of a public project. However, we have an equally important role as facilitators, sharing the ownership of any public initiative with all constituents, and thus promoting, access, social justice, and racial equity.

Form and Narrative

Our vision of the memorial is a sculpted landscape; informed by the rugged beauty and timelessness of Maine's landscape; an iconic place in a dynamic urban greenway; built with solid materials within the established budget; easy to maintain and considerate of four season use in daylight and at night.

A simple yet powerful place, engaging for people of all ages and abilities, meaningful for individuals as well as assemblies of community groups, inspired by Dr. King's writings and speeches ---a place that becomes a catalyst for social action.

"I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land" MLK Memorial

"Even if I knew tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree" "

We may have all come on different ships but we're in the same boat now."

We imagine weaving his message into the fabric of the site with light, text, visual and private audio elements in an effective manner that resonate beyond an initial visit.

Programming

We think the suggestion by the City that memorial designers consider programmatic elements in their ideas is an excellent one. The MLK Memorial can be an opportunity to introduce more community activities into the Bayside neighborhood and to further the goals of the Bayside Trail. Among many, two NPO arts organizations, Mayo Street Arts and TEMPOart, have worked in the neighborhood. They are creative, skilled at cross-cultural programming and would be excellent collaborators in the process.

For some, the power of Dr. King's vision will key on a private experience of contemplation and reflection. For others, the memorial will function best as social space for all people to gather together and share. A resolution balancing these needs will result in a meaningful memorial space along the Trail; a catalyst for a more engaged citizenry. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this meaningful project.

Sincerely,

Terry DeWan FASLA and Evan Haynes

**Ironwood Design Group
55 Main Street Suite 129
Newmarket, NH 03857**

MLK Memorial

The Beloved Community Memorial:

As we The Artists have conceived it, The Beloved Community Memorial will be located in the project area designated on the Bayside Trail between Franklin Street, Marginal Way, and Somerset Street.

The design we propose will fit within boundaries of the specified project area to accommodate these memorial features.

- Memorial Gateway
- Community Gathering Space with Amphitheater
- Timeline Trail
- Fragmented Walkway and Contemplation Space

Memorial features will be enhanced by design elements that inspire Dr. King's Beloved Community: Beacons and date capsules.

King's vision for a Beloved Community was all inclusive, and thus, the memorial would be designed with universal accessibility and would include design elements that could be enjoyed by individuals with hearing and sight impairments.

Design Element: Beacons

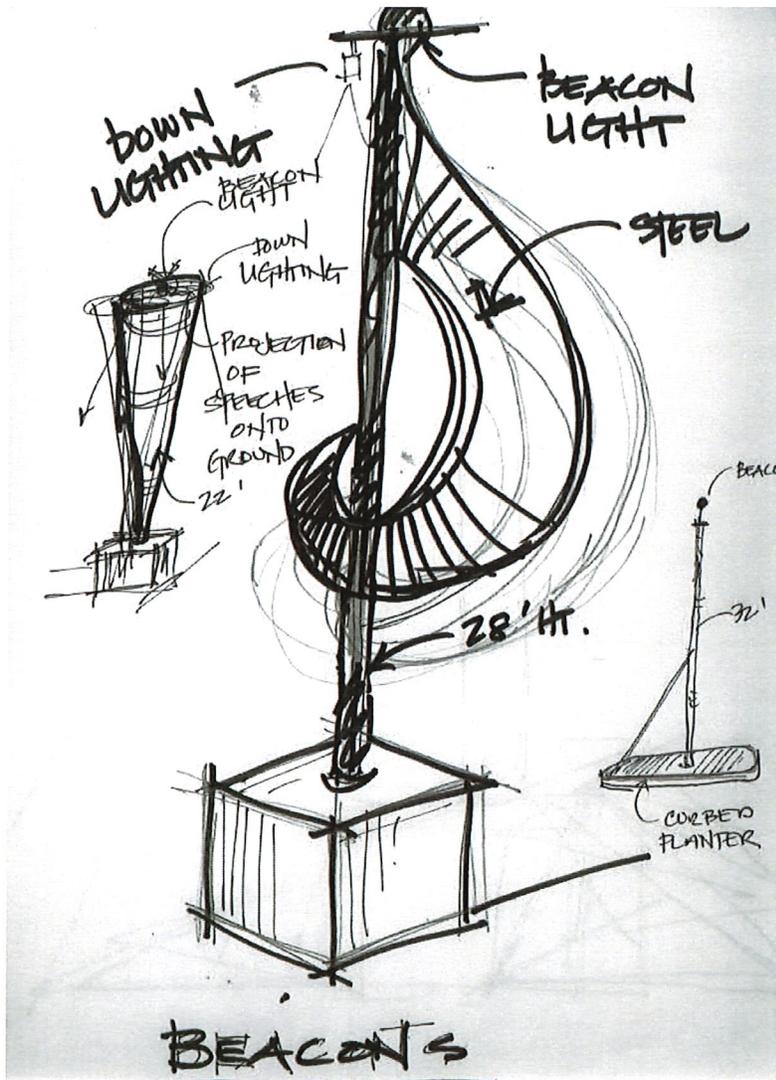
We embrace the use of beacons as a practicality, to guide visitors through the memorial, but also as sources of inspiration. Beacons are symbols for the light of truth and justice. A number of possibilities include beacons that:

- Reflect light down to reveal an array of hues, representing people of color
- Project inspirational words of Dr. King onto the trail's paved surfaces
- Provide light to a space with a traditional luminaire, but programmed to change color on important dates in the life of Dr. King

Beacons can be fabricated to project sound as well as light, symbolizing Dr. King's call for action. Audible beacons would be programmed to emit a low volume so the sound did not disturb people in other areas of the memorial or outside the memorial. Examples of projected sounds might include:

- Recorded music
- Recordings of portions of Dr. King's speeches spoken by local artists
- Recordings of portions of Dr. King's speeches spoken by Dr. King (with permission from The King Center)

In the overlay plan, we have suggested locations for 3 beacons. An objective of a limited public participation process would be to refine the memorial beacon design and its functions.



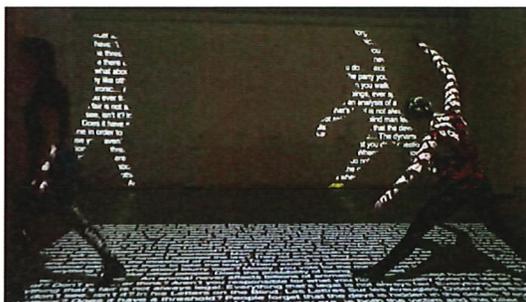
The Beloved Community Design Element: Beacons

Provided here are three sample sketches for the design of memorial beacons.

Far left: a 22-foot high beacon includes a down lit structure from which the words of Dr. King may be projected on the pavement of the Bayside trail.

Center: a 28-foot high beacon includes a draped steel sculptural element reminiscent of a ship sail, also down lit in colored lights for dramatic effect.

Far right: a 22-foot high beacon with luminaire reminiscent of a light on the top of a sail boat mast, contained within an attractive curbed seating planter.



Representative example of down lit text.



Representative example of down lit text.

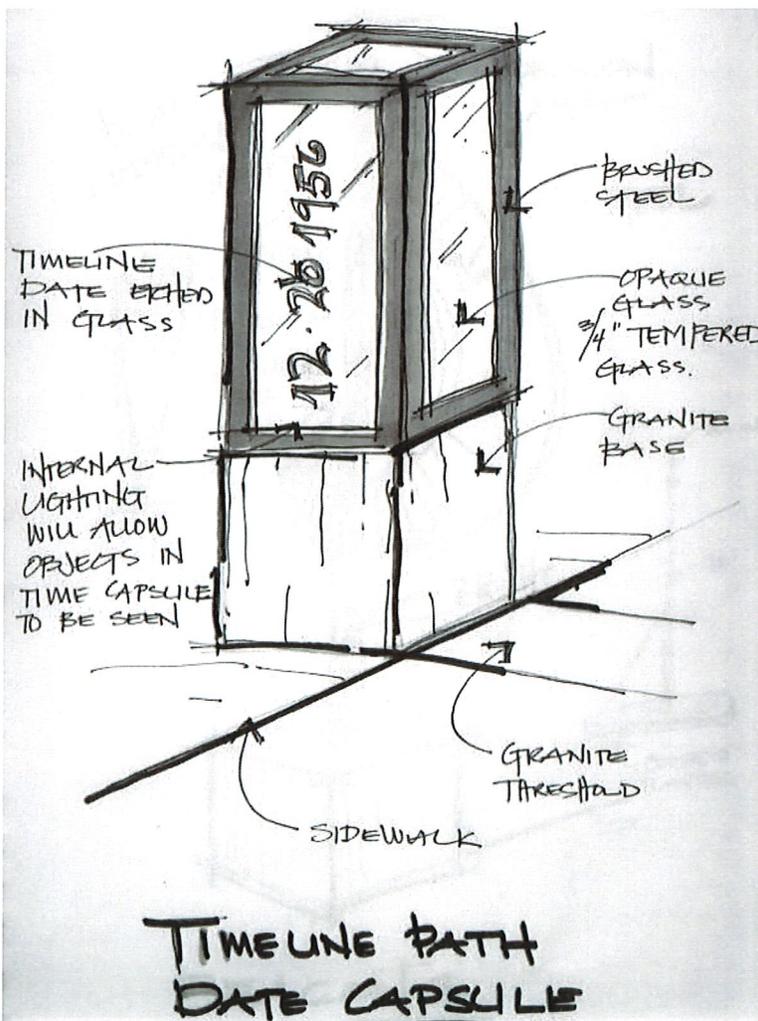
Design Element: Date Capsules

Decorative date capsules would be fabricated of tooled-finish granite and opaque glass, and inscribed with event dates. We propose the memorial include several date capsules that when taken together would create a Timeline Trail on the Bayside Trail.

Capsules could be designed to house artifacts to inform events that shaped Dr. King's vision of the Beloved Community.

Like beacons, date capsules could be engineered for sound and light functions.

An objective of a limited public participation process would be to refine the memorial date capsule design and function.



The Beloved Community Design Element: Date Capsules

Provided here is a sketch of a date capsule.

Date capsules would be made of granite and tempered glass. The capsule configuration creates a box for possible display of artifacts significant to the date on the capsule.

Date capsules might be fitted for sound to provide walking tour recordings on demand for memorial visitors.

Memorial Gateway

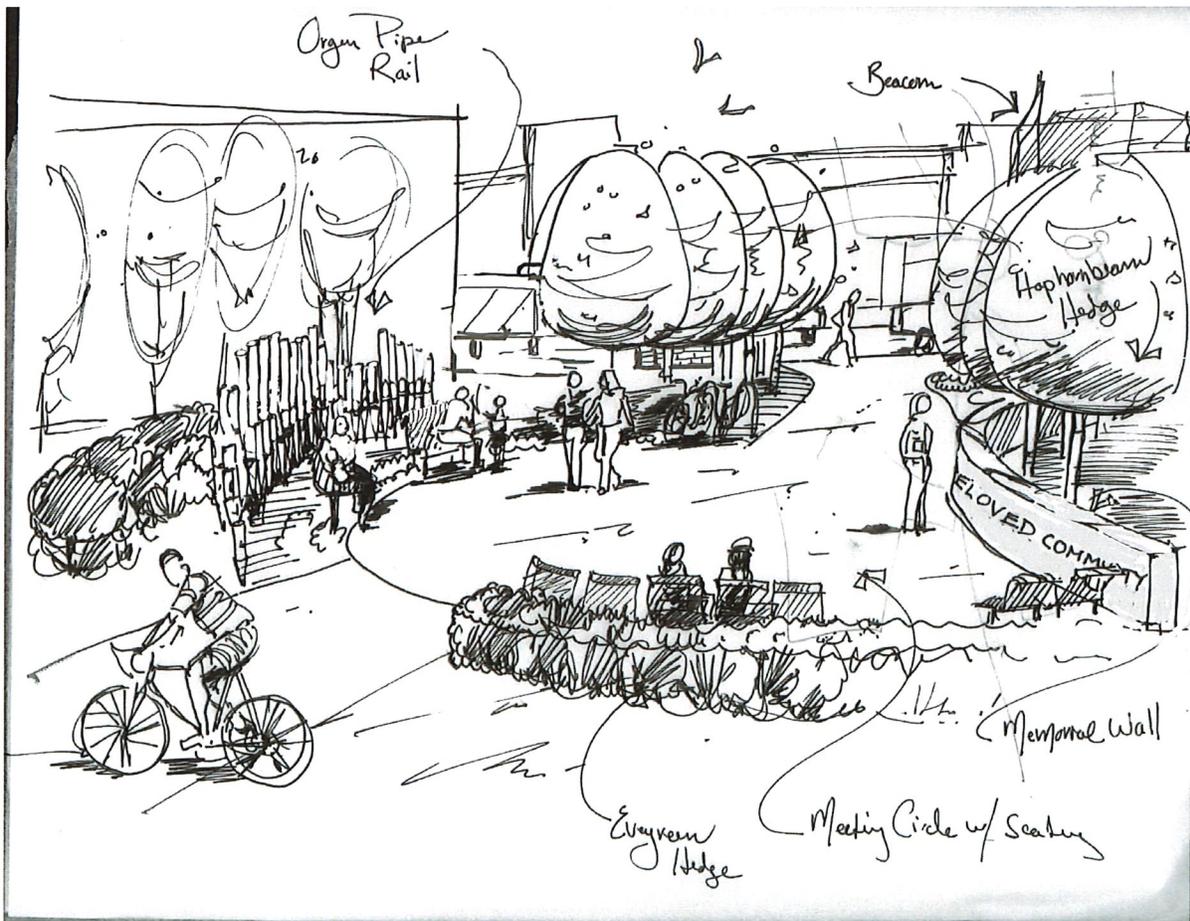
We have created The Beloved Community Memorial design concept to be experienced by visitors as a progression on the Bayside Trail.

The memorial shall be a City destination that invites visitors in. This invitation will be extended with a dramatic and beautiful entrance that figuratively announces:

You have arrived at a special place.

The entrance will be situated on the Bayside Trail at Franklin Street and include eye-catching features such as:

- A lighted beacon on Franklin Street at the trail intersection
- A brick sitting wall with an inlaid granite memorial sign
- An organ pipe fence, a tribute to Dr. King's mother and her love of playing the organ



Community Gathering Space

Within the project area, The Community Gathering Space amphitheater provides a congregation place within the memorial. This space would include a podium and stage so that people may teach and hear of Dr. King's The Beloved Community. Perhaps on the anniversaries of important speeches by Dr. King, community members would congregate here to read the words of Dr. King, reflect on his legacy, and the discuss the qualitative and quantitative changes necessary to create The Beloved Community?

The Community Gathering Space will also serve a location to perform and hear music. Music, particularly as a part of the African American sacred music tradition, was a significant part of Dr. King's life: from his mother serving as organist and music director at his father's church and singing as a young boy, to the musical references and hymns included throughout his sermons and speeches. The amphitheater celebrates congregation for the enjoyment of music.

Above all, the Community Gathering Space would be well designed so that the City could use the location for a broad range of event programming. Such a design would include appropriate lighting for day and evening events and attractive buffer plantings and visitor amenities.

Dr. King's mother, Alberta Christine Williams King, was the wife of Martin Luther King, Sr. She was shot and killed in Ebenezer Baptist Church while seated at the church organ, June 30, 1974.

We propose a beacon at this memorial location to attract visitors at the Community Gathering Space when events are not scheduled.



Example of full-cut-off colored lights.

The Timeline Trail

In the provided table, we have selected important speeches, sermons, and notable events in the life of Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement, all organized chronologically. Taken together, they demonstrate Dr. King's lifelong dedication to creation of The Beloved Community.

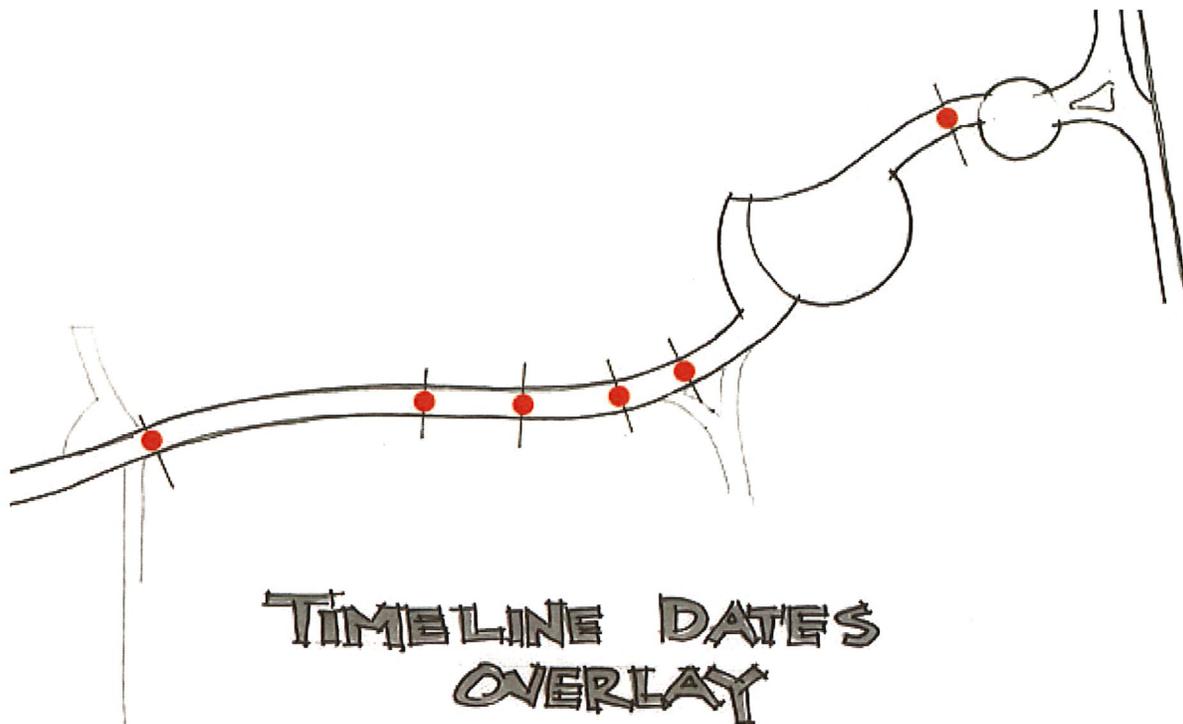
We envision that selected dates will be recognized with date capsule elements, which together create a timeline on the Bayside Trail. We have identified 13 dates for a Timeline Trail, but recognize there may only be space and budget to include a few of them. In the overlay plan, we have suggested locations for 6 date capsules.

Date	Significance	Context
January 15, 1929	Dr. King's birth date	Commemorating Dr. King's birth reminds us all of his unflinching conviction for The Beloved Community despite his short time on earth – only 39 years.
December 20, 1956	The successful end of the Montgomery Bus Boycott	This is one of the first highly visible successes of Dr. King's work within the Civil Rights Movement. The boycott was a reaction to the arrest of Rosa Parks on December 1, 1956 when she refused to give up her seat to a white passenger in the front of a municipal bus.
November 17, 1957	Dr. King delivered the "Loving Your Enemies Speech"	Dr. King describes our souls' evolution in reaching The Beloved Community. "With every ounce of our energy we must continue to rid this nation of the incubus of segregation. But we shall not in the process relinquish our privilege and our obligation to love. While abhorring segregation, we shall love the segregationist. This is the only way to create the beloved community."
April 16, 1963	Dr. King composed the "Letter from Birmingham City Jail"	Dr. King sets forth a nonviolent campaign to fight injustice from his jail cell: "In any nonviolent campaign there are four basic steps: (1) collection of the facts to determine where injustices are alive, (2) negotiation, (3) self-purification, and (4) direct action. We have gone through all of these steps in Birmingham. There can be no gainsaying of the fact that racial injustice engulfs this community."
August 28, 1963	Dr. King delivered "I Have A Dream Speech"	The I Have a Dream Speech was delivered in front of the Lincoln Memorial, as a part of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. For Dr. King, freedom and equality were impossible without economic opportunity.
September 18, 1963	Dr. King delivered the "Eulogy for the Martyred Children"	Three children were killed as a result of the terrorist bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, "Three children—unoffending: innocent and beautiful—were the victims of the most vicious, heinous crimes ever perpetrated against humanity. Yet they died nobly. They are the martyred heroines of a holy crusade for freedom and human dignity." (From A Testament of Hope)
October 14, 1964	Dr. King received the Nobel Peace Prize	Dr. King was chosen for the prize in honor of his life work to bring the Beloved Community into being in the United States using the nonviolent activism inspired by his study with Mahatma Gandhi. "I accept the Nobel Prize for Peace at a moment when twenty-two million Negroes of the United States of America are engaged in a creative battle to end the long night of racial injustice. I accept this award in behalf of A Civil Rights Movement, which is moving with determination and a majestic scorn for risk and danger to establish a reign of freedom and a rule of justice." (From A Testament of Hope)

August 16, 1967	Dr. King delivered the "Where Do We Go From Here? Speech"	This speech as Dr. King's last address as president to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the title of his last book, <u>Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?</u> "There is an invisible book of life that faithfully records our vigilance or our neglect, the moving finger writes, and having write moves on. We still have a choice today: nonviolent coexistence or violent co-annihilation. This may well be mankind's last chance to choose between chaos and community."
April 4, 1967	Dr. King gives the "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence Speech" also referred as "Riverside Church Speech"	Dr. King questions how it is fair to ask blacks to fight for "justice" on foreign soil when they are not treated with equality at home. Of the Vietnam War, which he does not consider to be a just war, he called for action: "If we will make the right choice, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our world into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. If we will but make the right choice, we will be able to speed up the day, all over America and all over the world, when justice will roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream."
April 9 1967	King delivered "The Three Dimensions of a Complete Life Sermon"	Dr. King calls for us all to go beyond our personal growth and even community goals, but to look for a higher life purpose. "And there are three dimensions of any complete life to which we can fitly give the words of this text: length, breadth, and height. (Yes) Now the length of life as we shall use it here is the inward concern for one's own welfare. (Yes) In other words, it is that inward concern that causes one to push forward, to achieve his own goals and ambitions. (All right) The breadth of life as we shall use it here is the outward concern for the welfare of others. (All right) And the height of life is the upward reach for God. (All right) Now you got to have all three of these to have a complete life." (From The Three Dimensions of a Complete Life)
April 3, 1968	Dr. King delivered the "I See the Promised Land Sermon"	This was Dr. King's final sermon, given the day before his death. With prophetic words he admits of his natural desire for a long life, but reinforces his need to do God's will and persevere in bringing his people to attainment, that we all may share in his concept for The Beloved Community. "I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land." (From A Testament of Hope)
April 4, 1968	Dr. King's date of assassination during the Memphis Sanitation Workers' Strike	Can we apply Dr. King's vision of a brotherly society and the doctrines of nonviolent protest despite the violence that assassinated Dr. King and continues to surround us today? Is The Beloved Community achievable if we do not?

An objective of a limited public participation process would be to identify the preferred dates to be included on the Timeline Trail.

If preference was for date capsules that include artifacts, we would work with the community to identify possible items for inclusion in date capsules.



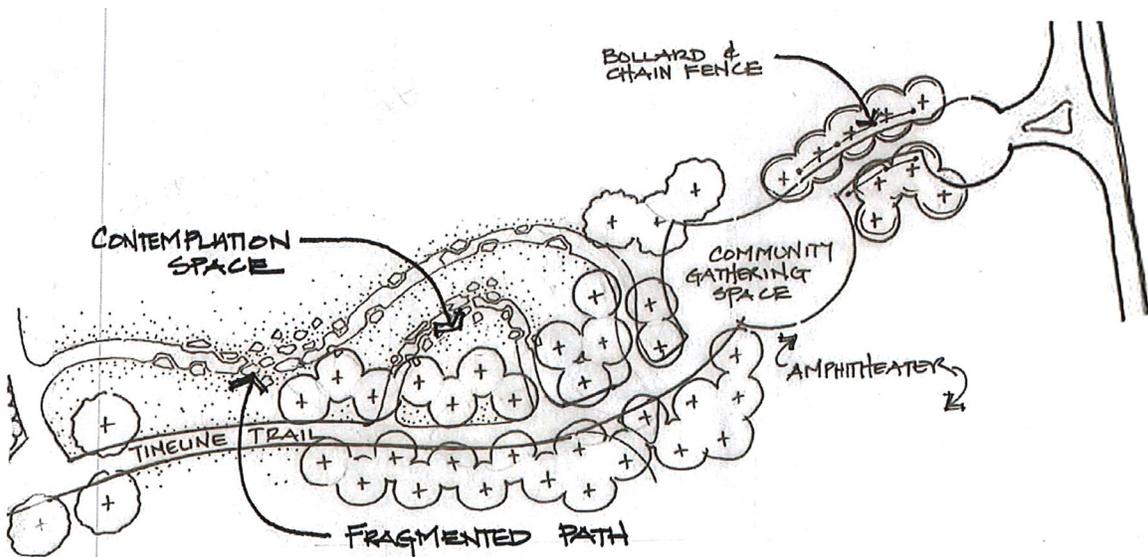
Fragmented Walkway and Contemplation Space

To recognize our obstacles as well as our great hope for The Beloved Community, our memorial design concept devotes space for reflection on a Fragmented Walkway and Contemplation Space. We envision a Fragmented Walkway built of crushed recycled concrete that creates the sensation of walking on the bleached bones of past felled civilizations. The Fragmented Walkway symbolically points to a potential disintegration for The Beloved Community if we do not act *now*.

We envision the Fragmented Walkway as a circular spur off the Bayside Trail with a Contemplation Space centrally located on the walkway for reflection, meditation, and prayer. A decorative buffer planting at the location would provide a level of privacy appropriate for an urban setting without being a public safety concern. The space would be appropriate for quiet remembrance of Dr. King and a children's storytelling circle.

On the perimeter of the Contemplation Space, a brick sitting wall with an inlaid granite memorial sign could be engraved with the words of Dr. King.

The Contemplation Space seating area would be similar in design and materials of that located at The Beloved Community Memorial Gateway, but smaller in scale.



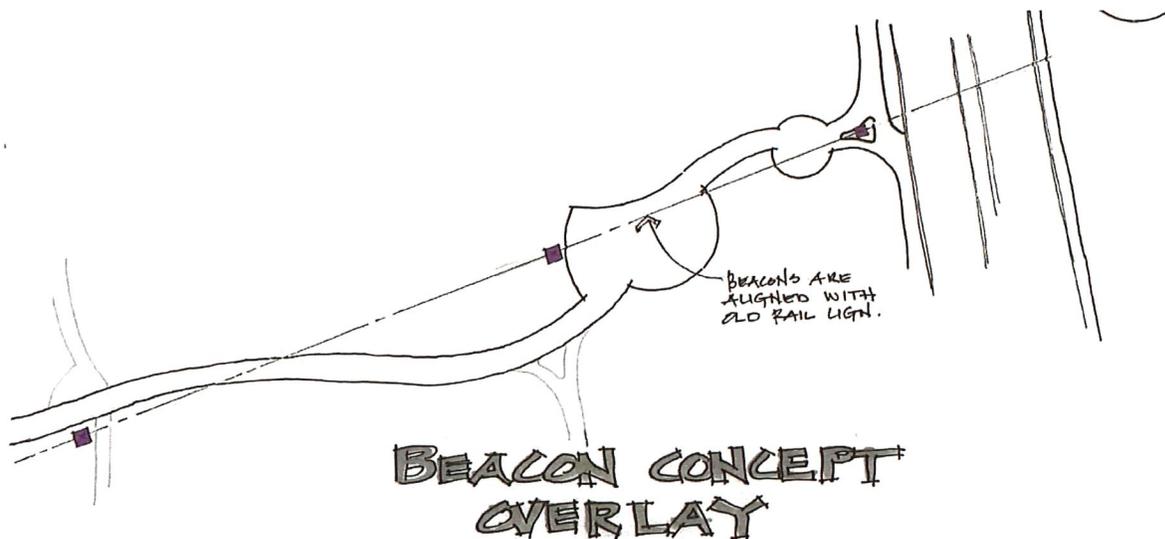
MEMORIAL FEATURES OVERLAY

We have proposed a beacon to be located on the Bayside Trail past the Fragmented Walkway and Contemplation Space, punctuating the end of the memorial near the Pearl Street Extension trail intersection.

We would work within the framework of a limited outreach process to create an appropriate end to the memorial experience.

An end of the memorial design punctuation might be a:

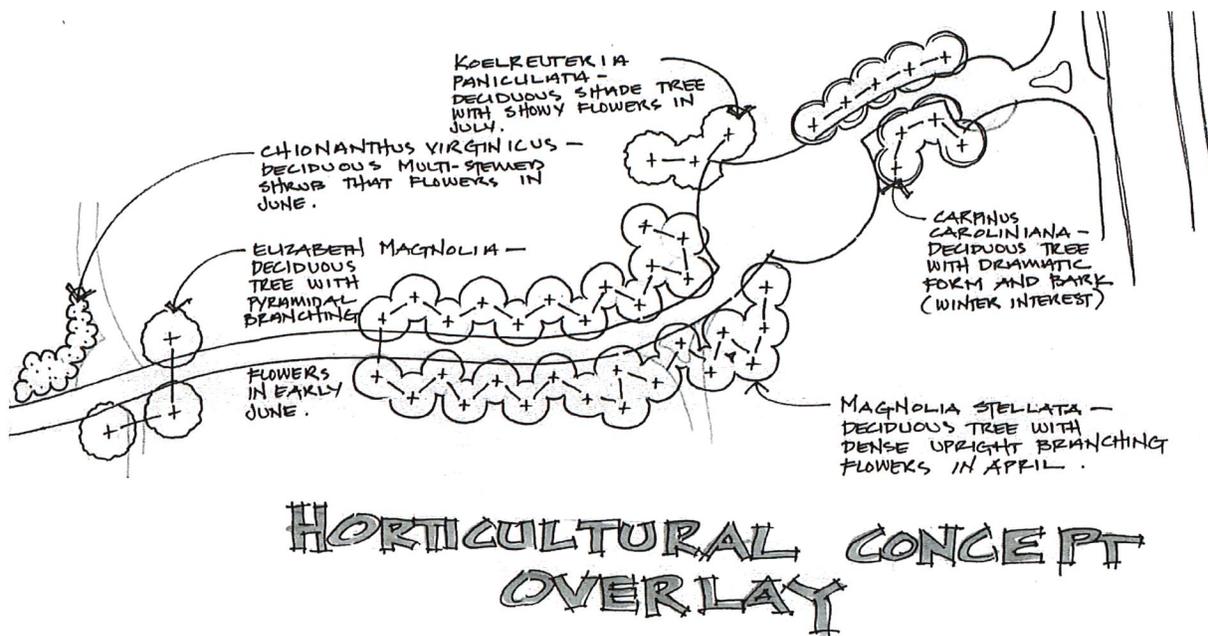
- Beacon projecting the words from a speech by Dr. King
- Specialized engraved granite collar embedded in the trail pavement with Dr. King's death date
- Date capsule for Dr. King's death describing his assassination
- Date capsule describing how the Civil Rights Movement continued after his death and today



Horticulture

We see The Beloved Community Memorial as an inviting green space with plantings that encompass visitors and buffer them from street traffic and noise.

The memorial would include trees, shrubs, and stylized groves, accentuated with lighting appropriate for the task, and for the urban location and compliant with City lighting regulations and "Dark Sky".



In addition to their seasonal coincidence for ornamental bloom, foliage or other visual features, horticultural components would provide services such as shade, stormwater collection and management, habitat for birds and insects, as well as pleasing fragrances.

We would select horticultural plantings to correspond with calendar dates highlighted in the memorial on the Timeline Trail and/or in date capsules.

Design and Design Implementation

Guidelines

We are accustomed to creating designs for the built environment within the confines of municipal public art and architectural guidelines.

Lasting Beauty

We are able to create and implement designs that stand up to the harshest New England weather. We recognize which building materials, trees, shrubs, and plants will be most resilient to the climate of Portland, ME.

Project Phasing

We are routinely asked to devise strategies for phased project implementation, which may be a consideration should funds need to be raised for The Beloved Community Memorial. We would work with the City and project stakeholders to determine a phasing strategy if needed, affording efficient installation according to the availability of funds and other resources.

Fundraising

We are fully equipped to create graphics, as well as enduring images and materials that can be used for raising funds and support from private and public audiences.

Our Artist Team Is Collaborative

We have identified memorial design features and elements that will inform and inspire. We recognize that a community outreach process, limited in scope, will help us create a conceptual design for the memorial that is beautiful and reflects the priorities of Portland.

Our Vision

The Beloved Community Memorial that we propose will inform and inspire, so not to forget the Civil Rights Movement objective to achieve Dr. King's brotherly society.

The memorial includes location for congregation, public speech, and music; a space for seated and walking contemplation; and a place to see, hear, and feel Dr. King's call to action to create The Beloved Community, all within a beautifully landscaped green space.

- The memorial will be dynamic.
- It will be a place to sing and celebrate.
- It will be a place to walk, contemplate, and meditate.
- It will be a place to learn about Dr. King: his words, his deeds, and his life.