



Pack Square Visioning Update

Presented by

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Libraries, Special Collections

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Project Overview

June 2020 – May 2022

- ✓ June 2020, BOCC passed a joint resolution with the City of Asheville. The resolution considered three Confederate Monuments (Vance, 60th NC, and Robert E. Lee). BOCC voted to remove the one marker in its jurisdiction. (60th North Carolina, previously located outside the courthouse).
- ✓ As part of the resolution, BOCC agreed to forming a jointly appointed task force with COA to consider the future of the Vance Monument.
- ✓ November 2020, Members of the jointly appointed task force voted to recommend that the City and County move forward with the removal of the Vance Monument. BOCC approved this recommendation at their meeting on December 7, 2020.
- ✓ April 2021, BOCC voted to authorize the County Manager to enter into a cost-share agreement with the City of Asheville up to \$35k to fund the development of securing a consultant to facilitate a community visioning process.



Project Overview, Contd.

- ✓ Action was stalled as the City of Asheville manages legal issues around the removal of the monument. In the meantime, County staff began working with City of Asheville staff on and RFP to seek qualified candidates to lead the revisioning process. The RFP was posted January 18, 2022, and received three responses.
- ✓ An inter-organizational team of 12 members of Buncombe County and City of Asheville staff assisted in the selection of the **McAdams** firm as the top-ranked applicant.
- ✓ McAdams has designated \$15,000 in their budget to sub-contract with local organizations and/or individuals



Collaborative Engagement

Public Art and Culture Commission

Art in the Heart Public Art Program

Buncombe County Special Collections

Archives and Research

Morehead-Cain Scholars

Buncombe Community Engagement
– Connecting to Neighborhoods

McAdams

Project management, visioning
document

COA and Buncombe County Staff

Support and Guidance for Project
Team

Community Stakeholders

YMI, CAYLA Students, Business
Owners, etc.



Next Steps & Timeline

- ✓ At the **June 14, 2022** City Council meeting, council members approved entering a contract with McAdams.
- ✓ **Mid-July** -McAdams will begin work with City and County staff and other community stakeholders to develop a communication and engagement plan.
- ✓ **August**- Community listening sessions begin
- ✓ **September**- McAdams will complete a site analysis and inventory of the project area (including corridor to “The Block)
- ✓ **October-January** Community engagement and feedback sessions on draft visioning document
- ✓ **March 2023** - Community visioning document presented to BOCC and City Council for final approval.



Discussion

