

Perkins&Will

Meeting Minutes

Date: 10.5.2020 **Authored By:** Uttara Ramakrishnan

Meeting Details

Meeting Date: 10.3.2020

Project Name: George Washington Carver Center

Meeting Time: 1.00 PM

Project Number: 215011.000

Meeting Location: Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Carver:

Carre Adams

Parks and Recreation

Laura Esparza, Megan Eckard, Gregory Montes, Justin Schneider, Larry Williams,

Smith & Company Architects:

Terry Smith, Juarez White, Ivonne Canez

Perkins and Will:

Stephen Coulston, Kenneth Luker, Paul Ward, Alison Binford, Uttara Ramakrishnan

Participants:

23

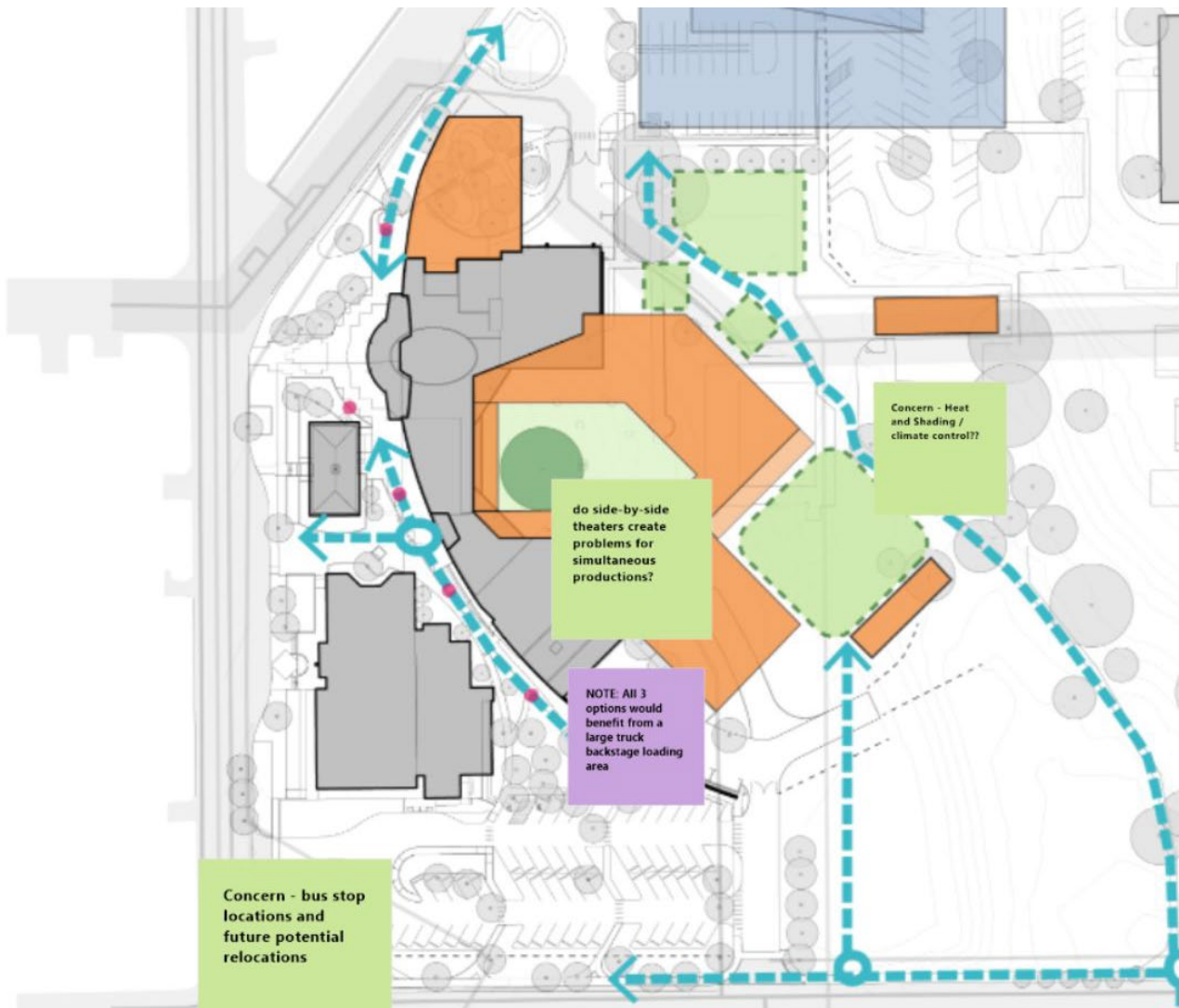
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Discussion

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBILITY	ORGANIZATION
1	Welcome and Introduction A brief introduction of the project and the purpose of the meeting to seek the help of the participants to define a vision for the future of the Carver Center taking into consideration the concepts from the older planning efforts.	Carre Adams	George Washington Carver Museum
2	Process and Engagement Input A briefing of where we are in the project, engagement process and the outcomes.	Terry Smith	Smith & Company Architects
3	Preliminary Concepts Expanding on the key themes that came out of the engagement process, opportunities, and challenges and 3 preliminary design options	Malcolm Davis and Kenneth Luker	Perkins and Will
4	Discussion and Feedback Exercise to seek participant feedback on 3 preliminary design options.	All	Perkins and Will
5	Next Steps/Closing The next steps in the process and ways to continue to stay engaged.	Gregory Montes	COA Parks and Recreation Department

Discussion and Feedback:

Option 1:

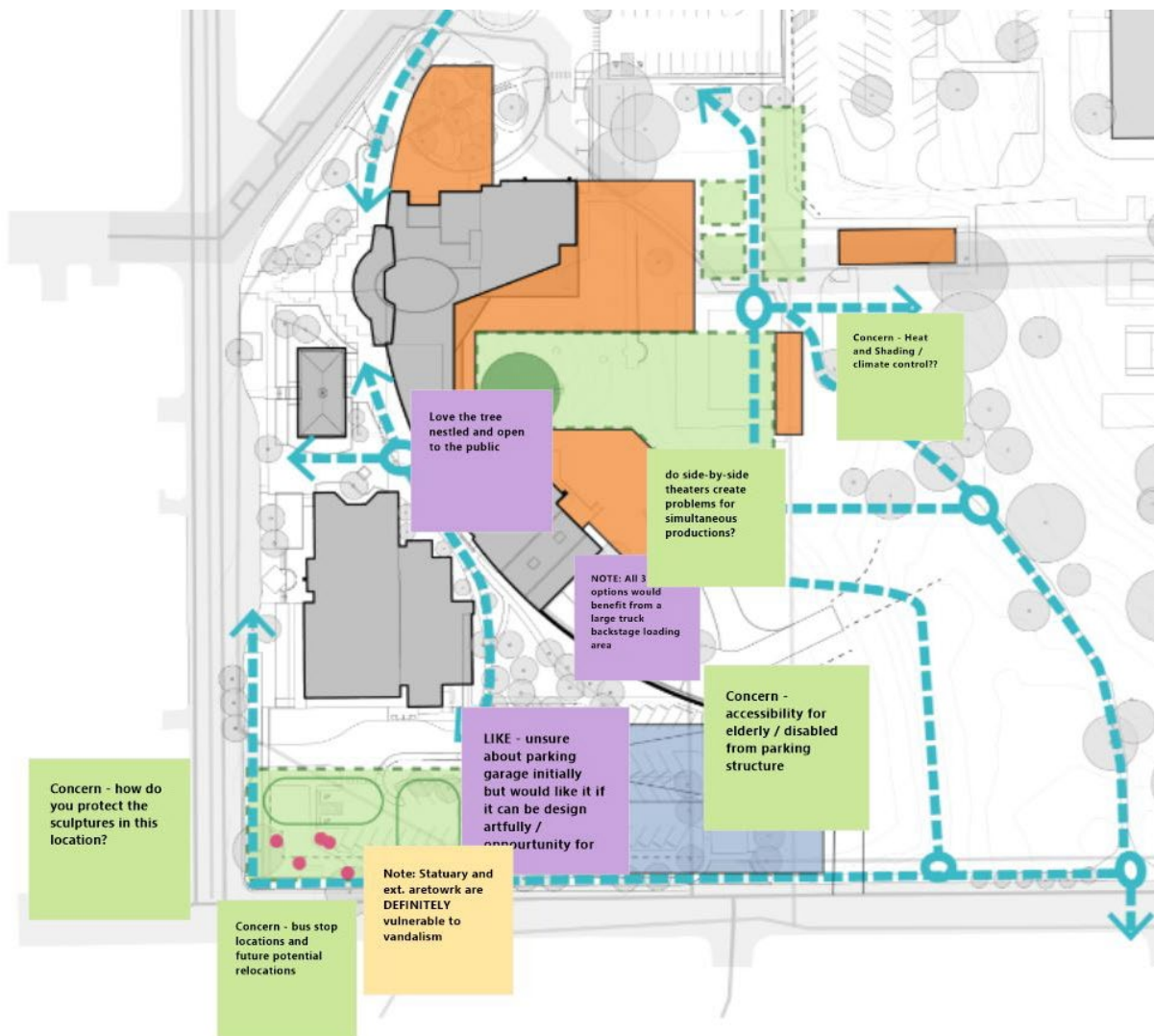


1. Concerns were raised on the positioning of theaters and if locating them side-by-side would cause issues to simultaneous productions. The design team mentioned that this can be dealt by adequate acoustic treatments; providing a common reception area for both the theaters is a judicious use of space.
2. The participants also mentioned that the open green spaces should be provided with shading and climate control elements. The design team assured that they are cognizant

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of this and will make the design recommendations during the next stages of development.

Option 2:



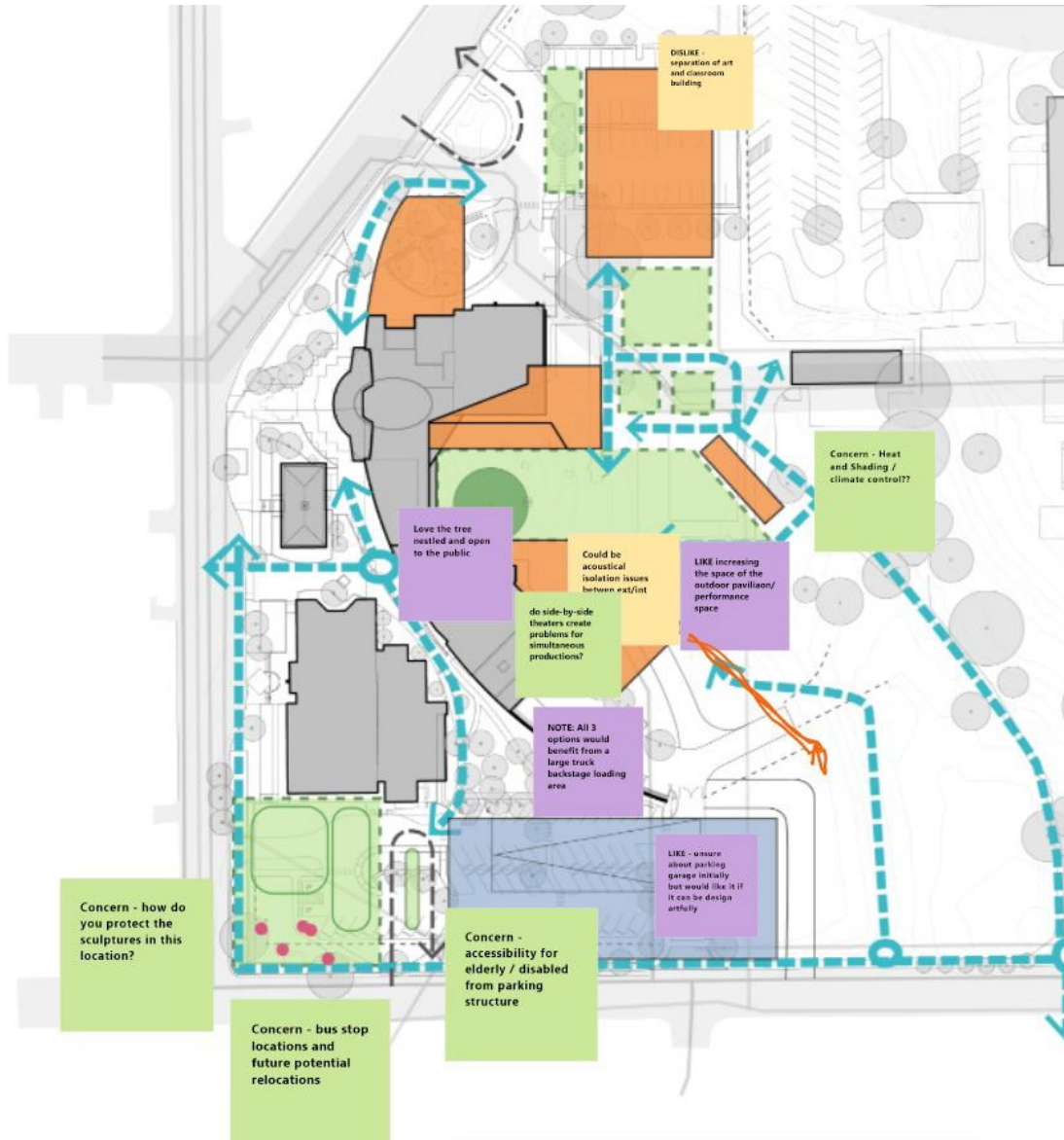
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1. Green Space: The participants mentioned they appreciate the thoughtfulness of the design as it preserves the heritage oak tree and makes way for a huge green space open to the public.
2. Parking: Some of the participants mentioned that the parking along Rosewood Ave. provided the project with an opportunity to design the garage thoughtfully and may provide a space for murals.
3. Juneteenth/external artwork: The statues and external artwork are vulnerable to vandalism. Sculptures should be protected.
4. Access: Access to the Carver museum and other buildings from the parking structure should be designed for the elderly and disabled friendly.

Option 3:



1. Green Space: The participants mentioned they appreciate the thoughtfulness of the design as it preserves the heritage oak tree and makes way for a huge green space open to the public.
2. Education/Events as a separate building: Some of the participants felt that the idea of separating education from arts was not preferred. The design team mentioned

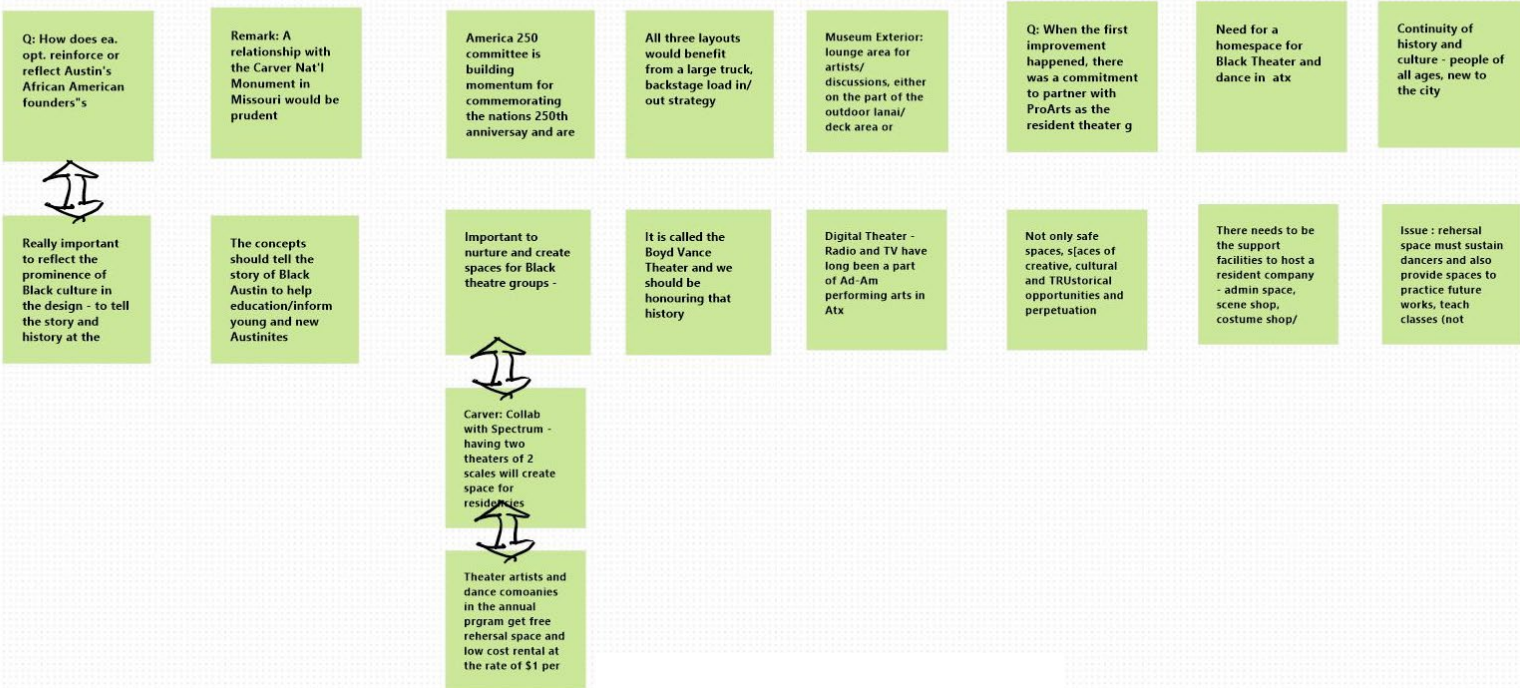
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that this was done keeping in mind the concerns of the Carver staff that the education programs usually get noisy.

3. Pavilion: The participants mentioned they really liked the outdoor pavilion.
4. Acoustics: Acoustic bleed between the theater's and outdoor spaces should be managed.

General Remarks:

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1. Bus stop: Participants urged the design team to be cognizant of the existing bus stop and potential relocations.

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2. Loading Area: All 3 options would benefit from a large truck backstage loading area. The design team mentioned that loading area for the theaters can be redesigned.
3. Culture: How does each option reinforce or reflect Austin's African American culture?
It is important to reflect the prominence of Black culture in the design - to tell the story and history at the forefront of any option
Concepts should tell the story of Black Austin to help education/inform young and new Austinites.
Continuity of history and culture - people of all ages, new to the city.
4. Partnerships: A relationship with the Carver National Monument in Missouri would be prudent.
5. Bond Idea: America 250 committee is building momentum for commemorating the nation's 250th anniversary and are invested in communities sharing all the stories of America's history. It might be a good idea to plan a timetable for bond and expansion - given all that Carver has contributed to our historical narrative.
6. Theater: The participants mentioned that it was important to nurture and create spaces for Black theater groups in the city. The team and COA representatives mentioned that the Carver already has partnered with certain groups and the additional theater in the new design options will provide opportunities for residencies.
Additionally, the theater should honor Vance Boyd, its namesake.
There needs to be the support facilities to host a resident company - admin space, scene shop, costume shop/storage.
Rehearsal space must sustain dancers and also provide spaces to practice future works, teach classes (not connected to performance)
7. Museum Exterior: A lounge area for artists to have discussions should be included in the design either in the interior or the exterior spaces.
8. Miscellaneous:
Digital theater could be augmented

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- 9. Quality of Space: Create safe spaces; spaces of creative, cultural and TRUstorical opportunities and perpetuation.

Meeting Screenshots:

CarverMuseumATX Planning Meeting #2 Recorded Live
 George Washington Carver Museum, Cultural and Genealogy Center

What would you like to see?

Idea of the Carver

- History of Community
- Cultural Anchor
- Arts Connector
- Space for budding BIPOC artists
- Ethos of G.W. Carver

Program

- Activities for kids
- More events and festivals
- Increased hours of operation
- Rotating sculptures in the green area at the back

Experience

- Choreographed experience
- Improvements to the way one moves around
- Enable large-scale events
- Moving art work around the complex to be made easier

Indoor Spaces

- Additional Spaces for varied uses
- Improvements to existing spaces
- Child-care facility to be introduced
- Artist residency/studio to be introduced
- Spaces for staff
- Add Museum shop
- Add Cafe

Outdoor Spaces

- Amphitheater
- Rotating exhibits of sculptures in the green area at the back
- Redevelopment of decommissioned pool
- Well maintained landscape
- Community garden to be introduced

Building Management System

- Light improvements
- Ventilation in the basement
- Sound quality improvements
- Supporting Technology to be introduced

Parking

- Wheelchair access
- Proximity to building
- Lighting on the grounds

Circulation

- Choreographed experience
- Improvements to the way one moves around
- Enable large-scale events
- Moving art work around the complex to be made easier

Wayfinding & Accessibility

- Signage needs clarity
- Safety to be improved
- Improve accessibility to spaces

Branding

- Connect to other important organizations
- Heart of Black Cultural District

20:10 / 2:10:23

CarverMuseumATX Planning Meeting #2 Recorded Live
 George Washington Carver Museum, Cultural and Genealogy Center

OPTION 1 CON

1. Single phase construction may not align with available capital assets
2. Disrupts existing views from lobby
3. Interrupts existing ADA accessible path
4. Does not separate Art Dock

20:10 / 2:10:23

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