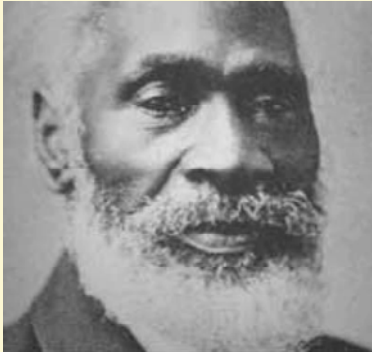


# Josiah Henson Special Park Master Plan

(Formerly Uncle Tom's Cabin Special Park)

Preliminary Site Plan Response to Community Issues



Park & Trail Planning Section  
Cultural Resources Stewardship Section  
Montgomery County Department of Parks

Public Meeting  
24 August 2010

8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910



## Project Background

### THE SITE

- Both parcels = 1.5 acres
- Special Park
- Old Georgetown Road in North Bethesda
- Southern Maintenance Region
- Adjacent to White Flint Sector Planning Area



## Project Background



**Josiah Henson Special Park**  
1.02 acres acquired in January 2006



**Rozier Property**  
.5 acre acquired in June 2009



*Josiah Henson Site, Maryland*



## Project Background

### VISION STATEMENT

#### 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 and is
- ***Treasured*** by the people it serves.



# Project Background

Project Schedule	
2006	Riley Farm Property Acquired
2009	Rozier Property Acquired
2010	MASTER PLANNING
MAY	✓ Launched Website on <a href="http://www.ParkPlanning.org">www.ParkPlanning.org</a>
JUNE	✓ 6/10 – Planning Board Roundtable Plan Objectives, Outreach and Schedule to Planning Board ✓ 6/15 – Community Meeting #1 Plan Objectives to the Community for Input
JULY / AUGUST	✓ Develop concepts and draft plan, based on public input Public comments received ✓ CANCELLED 7/26 – Community Meeting #2 ❖ 8/24 – Community Meeting #2 <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Draft Concept Plan Development
SEPTEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/> 9/16 – Staff Draft to Planning Board Request a Public Hearing Date. Staff Draft posted on the website.
OCTOBER	<input type="checkbox"/> 10/28 – Planning Board Public Hearing
NOVEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/> 11/18 – Planning Board Work Session and Plan Adoption Approval/Adoption Final Park Master Plan

❖ **Note:** Following Master Plan Adoption, a separate Facility Planning project (30% Design) will be initiated by the Park Development Division.

❖ Indicates Opportunities for Public Input

# Review of Public Comments

## PUBLIC INPUT

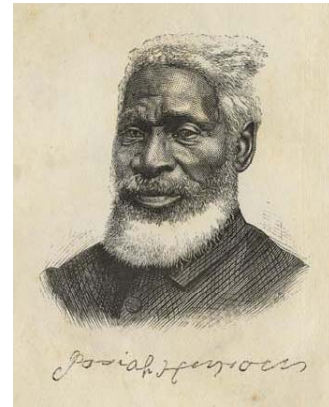



Vision and Issues by Category, Summary and the Plan Responses

# Review of Public Comments

## VISION

- Josiah Henson’s Life
- Montgomery County’s History of Slavery
- Architectural and Historic Landscape Interpretation
- Archaeological Discovery



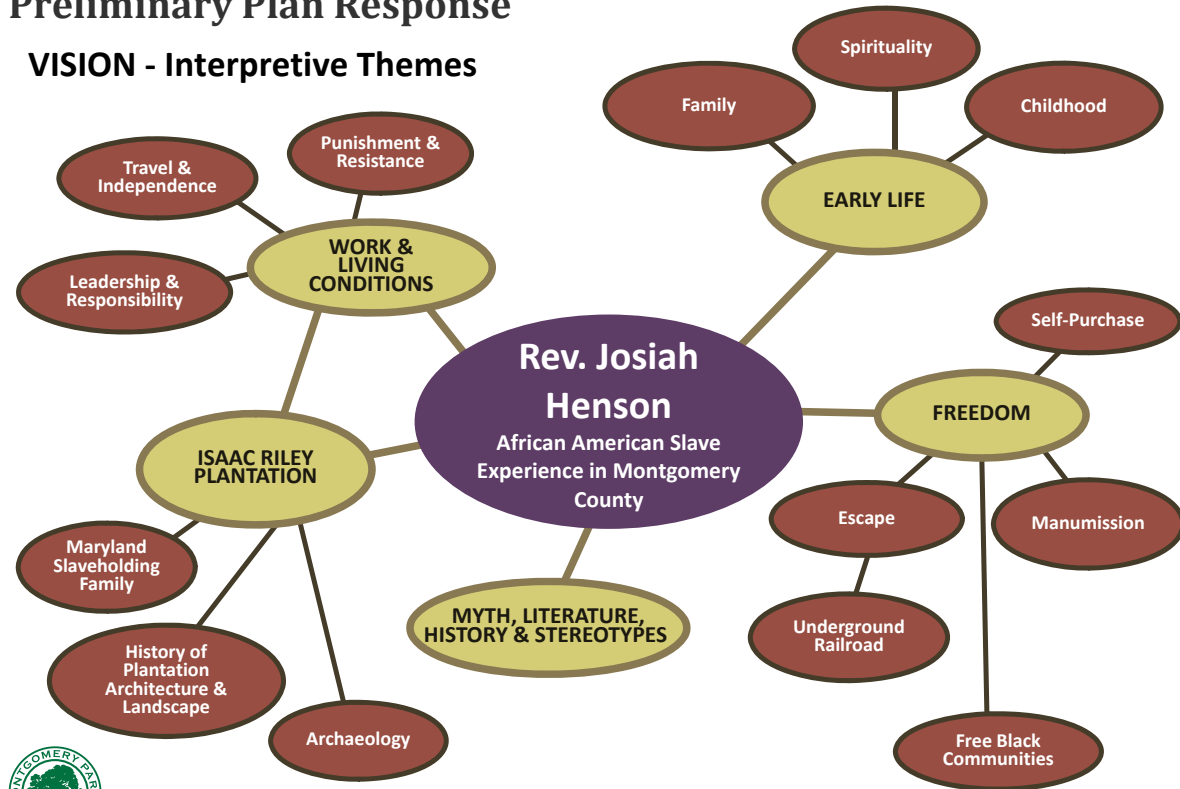
# Preliminary Plan Response

## INTERPRETIVE VISION TOPICS - Interpretive Themes for Exhibits and Programs

<b><i>The Reverend Josiah Henson and the African American Slave Experience in Montgomery County</i></b>	
<b>Early Life of Enslaved Peoples</b>	<b>Isaac Riley Plantation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childhood</li> <li>• Family</li> <li>• Spirituality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slaveholding Family</li> <li>• Plantation History - <i>Architecture &amp; Landscape</i></li> <li>• Archaeology</li> </ul>
<b>Work &amp; Living Conditions</b>	<b>Myth, History, Literature &amp; Stereotypes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel &amp; Independence</li> <li>• Leadership &amp; Responsibility</li> <li>• Punishment &amp; Resistance</li> </ul>	
<b>Freedom / Emancipation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-purchase</li> <li>• Manumission</li> <li>• Escape - <i>Underground Railroad</i></li> <li>• Free Black Communities (1800s)</li> </ul>	

# Preliminary Plan Response

## VISION - Interpretive Themes



# Review of Public Comments

## ISSUES

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



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

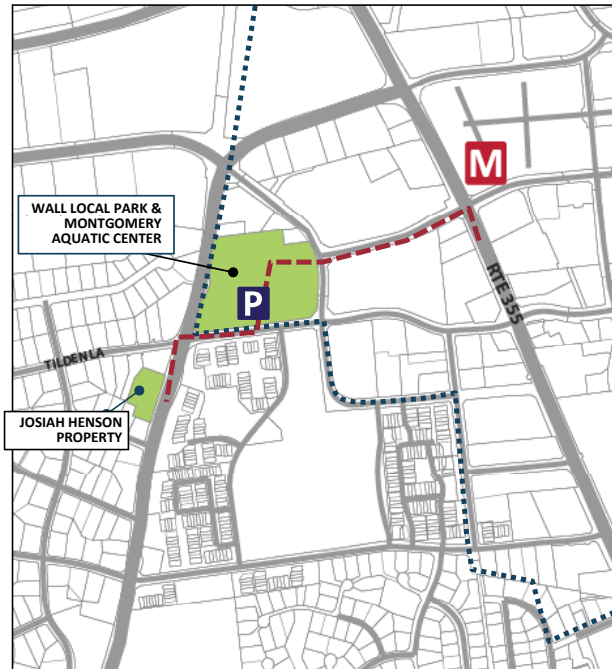
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- #10 Funding



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

- #1 Community Outreach: African American History
- #2 Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane
  - Access for Vehicles and Pedestrians
- #4 Security of Site
- #5 Directional and Interpretive Signage for Park
- #6 Need for Open Public Process
- #7 Need for Additional Park Amenities
- #8 Future Acquisition Needs
- #9 Site Drainage
- #10 Funding



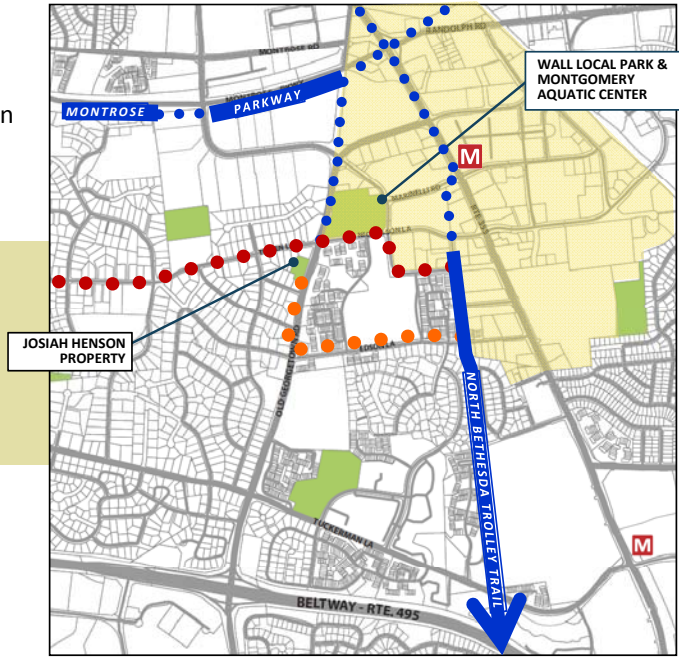
⋯⋯⋯ White Flint Planning Area  
- - - Pedestrian Route



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

- #1 Community Outreach: African American History
- #2 Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane
- #3 Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking
  - **Important Bicycle Connections:**
  - Trolley Trail**
  - Orange** - Edson Rd to Old Georgetown (Most direct and less uphill)
  - Red** - Woodglen to Executive Blvd.
- #7 Need for Additional Park Amenities
- #8 Future Acquisition Needs
- #9 Site Drainage
- #10 Funding



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

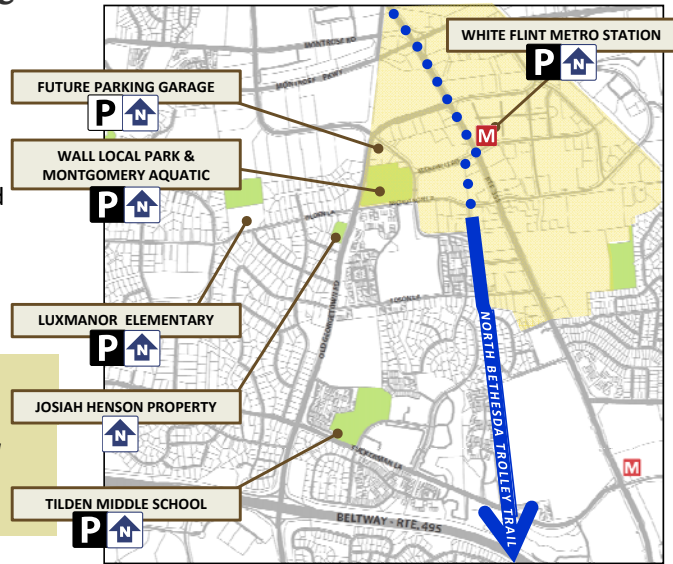
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- #8 Future Acquisition Needs
- #9 Site Drainage
- #10 Funding



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

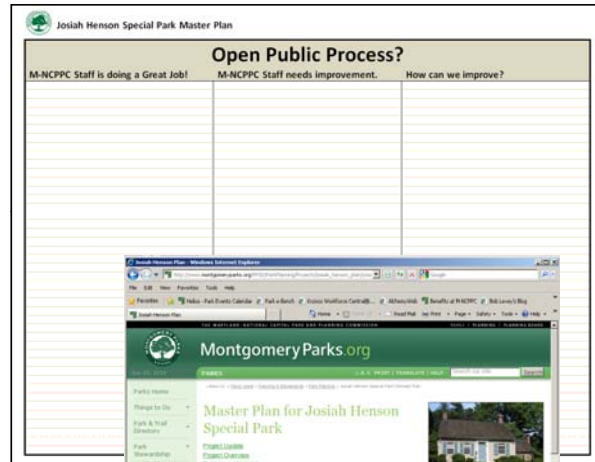
- #1 Community Outreach: African American History
- #2 Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane
- #3 Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking
- #4 Security of Site
- #5 Directional and Interpretive Signage for Park
  - **Off-site Event Parking & Wayfinding Signage**
- #9 Site Drainage
- #10 Funding



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

- #1 Community Outreach: African American History
- #2 Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane
- #3 Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking
- #4 Security of Site
- #5 Directional and Interpretive Signage for Park
- #6 Need for Open Public Process
  - **How are we doing?**
- #8 Future Acquisition Needs
- #9 Site Drainage
- #10 Funding



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

- #1 Community Outreach: African American History
- #2 Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane
- #3 Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking
- #4 Security of Site
- #5 Directional and Interpretive Signage for Park
- #6 Need for Open Public Process
- #7 Need for Additional Park Amenities
  - **Install Park property markers**
  - **Screen site with additional trees**
  - **Picnic Area**



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

- #1 Community Outreach: African American History
- #2 Safe Crossing at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane
- #3 Programming Impact of Traffic and Parking
- #4 Security of Site
- #5 Directional and Interpretive Signage for Park
- #6 Need for Open Public Process
- #7 Need for Additional Park Amenities
- #8 Future Acquisition Needs



**Preliminary staff recommendation regarding possible future expansion of Josiah Henson Special park:** Staff recommends possible future expansion of the existing park boundary based on the 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 three independent appraisals, and available funding.



# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

- #1 Community Outreach: African American History
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# Preliminary Plan Response

## ISSUES

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- #10 Funding



## Breakout Stations Instructions

To discuss proposed staff goals and objectives

1. Interpret Josiah Henson's life and history of slavery in Montgomery County
2. Retain the Integrity of the Historic Architecture and Landscape
3. Create a safe accessible site
4. Advocacy

