

further enhance and focus on the visual impact of the flag and sculpture, giving them major roles in the tone and impact of the memorial as a whole. With this solution, I genuinely believe that everyone on both sides of the issue can fully achieve their objectives. I sincerely believe this solution can effect a reconciliation, which has been one of the primary and long-sought goals of this memorial.

Thank you.

Mr. Brown will speak next.

MR. COOPER: Joe, would you like to detail the landscape considerations?

MR. BROWN: I think Kent has really said most of what needs to be said, and I think there is some landscape design work to be done in terms of actual plant material, but I might say, based on our last meeting, I think you sent us away saying to look at the trees and plant material out there more closely, and that is what we have done, and we became particularly fascinated with this area here. Kent has described the walkway revisions, which I think is one of those examples where you find a small idea and at the right time and place and it becomes a very good one and very big one, but we were particularly concerned with the big oaks. You can see there are basically three of those, and then the maples below those.

Some of those are newly planted. We have done everything possible to preserve the basic trees and not only preserve them, but augment their quality and perception of them. We have transplanted three maples to create what we are calling an "ushering-in room". We see it now as green, and you can come off of the entry plaza, where the pedestrian area would be most dense, and the compaction dense, and then you would move to this room in, I think, an open way, so that there would not be one path by which they would be filtered through that room.

You can see from where Mr. Stone is sitting that the symbolic relationships that Kent was talking about are really quite visible. The flag is literally waving over the sculpture and over the vortex in an entry scenario, and that curves in reverse: from the vortex you see a flag waving over the sculpture.

You can see a little gray edge that we are showing here to help define this ushering space below the large canopy, and we see possibly a lawn edge, a small lawn edge, and within that lawn edge we have a more stabilized turf, a bluff, so we define that with, possibly, granite steps, or some very lush treatment that gives it a little bit of upgrade in quality of material.

We also see the introduction of understory planting, possibly compacted holly, to help shape that space again very subtly.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Am I right in saying that there is a kind of implied circle then around there?

MR. J. BROWN: The circle is very fragmented.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Does it show up on your drawing?

MR. J. BROWN: It does. You can see a little piece of it here and a little piece of it there, and a little piece of it right there. It is so fragmented, just to help subtly create that ushering-in part.

MR. STONE: A mixed surface, soft surface?

MR. J. BROWN: Yes.

MR. STONE: How, ultimately would you get to a path? Given, you know, that we were out there earlier in the day --

MR. J. BROWN: Over in here?

MR. STONE: Yes.

MR. J. BROWN: We feel that the beauty of the wall is its ability to approach from any direction, so we did not really want to make a walkway connection to that walkway, and the walkway itself is really part of the memorial, and to put a kind of mundane walkway connecting to it I think would demean it, so we feel that would just be an open space you would move through.

You might move directly to here and then walk up, or you might come to here and go here, or you might come in here and go down and then walk up this way. So this is allowing for the most flexible variety of approaches.

MR. STONE: There are two very practical considerations, it seems to me. One is access for the handicapped, and, number two, the turf is in absolutely terrible shape at the present time, and I just wondered if, practically, we aren't going to have to have some solid walkway.

MR. COOPER: Could I speak to that, since I have been in the middle of that one.

MR. J. BROWN: I have not been involved in that problem.

MR. COOPER: One of the problems that we have had with the turf down there is that the subsurface drainage system has been working fine, but the surface drainage system has not been working as fine, and there has been a big negotiation going on between ourselves, the Park Service, and multiple designers about what kind of soil mix do we really want to use, what is the level of perk that we can stand. We know if water perks through too fast, it tends to dry out in August, so we are trying to get this balance and corrective action underway, and, you know, I think we have reached a position which we can all support as to that.

MR. STONE: I don't mean to dominate the conversation, but given the success of the memorial as a place of pilgrimage, the implied traffic pattern, and I like what you say about the mix of soft and hard, but I don't know whether it works.

MR. COOPER: I think I ought to add another thing, that we have also been asked to study a permanent hard surface path system to reach the memorial. We will study this, and if one is proposed, it, obviously, will be brought back before you all. But, for one thing, we have got to get this issue of where we are going to put these elements behind us before we can put our heart into doing any of this, because that is going to be a bear of a design job.

One thing I didn't say -- Joe, I don't mean to interrupt you -- you asked me a question on the locators and I talked all around it and didn't ever answer your question. I am sorry. We are proposing to put four locators along here, interspersed into the existing street furniture, and we want to do it in a way that we don't have to take any trees or benches or anything out, and we can do that. We are also talking about putting one over near the bus stop near the Lincoln Memorial, and if more are required, we can do it. It is a metal casing, and it is a piece of street furniture.

MR. J. BROWN: I think I can conclude and just say I have only spoken to this alternative, and we feel very comfort

able with it. Really it is working with the existing canopy and plant material, as well, and the entry circulation. We have looked at every possible choice.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

MR. DOUBECK: Mr. Chairman, that concludes our presentation. We are prepared to answer any questions that you or the Commission members may have.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: We want to hear, also, from others here who might want to testify. I think we have a member of Congress here who is eager to get back to a vote. Perhaps it would be appropriate to give him an opportunity to speak.

MR. HUNTER: Thank you. My name is Duncan Hunter. I am a member of Congress, but I am participating in this hearing as a Vietnam veteran.

I would like to speak in favor of Proposal "B".

Let me see if we have it over here. This is proposal "B". As you can see, the flag pole is behind the apex; the sculpture is facing the walls within the "V".

Let me tell you from the outset that I am not recommending proposal "B" because I think it is an esthetically superior design, although I do, and I am not recommending it because I think that the flag and sculpture has to be integrated into the memorial, which I do, also; I am recommending it because it is a result of a compromise that was made by