

## OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES & GOALS

### Physical Character/Quality

The NMAAHC will be “clean, impressive, and monumental”

The NMAAHC building and site design will be superior and sustainable, while ensuring flexibility for the NMAAHC designer.

### Mission and Program

The range of alternatives will fall within 350,000gsf – 450,000 gsf

Outdoor space will be provided to accommodate museum-related programming and activities, and provide publicly accessible open space.

### Monumental Context

Strong linkages (physical connections and/or visual connections) will be reinforced with museums, monuments, memorials and other cultural resources.

Relates to the building alignment on the Mall

Defers to WAMO

While maintaining the sense of openness and accessibility reflective of democracy and freedom, security risks associated with a building of its national and symbolic importance will be addressed, similar to other major facilities on the Mall (for example, with a recommended 50' minimum setback on all sides.)

### Urban Design Principles

The NMAAHC building and site design will provide a transition from the museum row to the Monument and beyond.

The NMAAHC's mean height will not exceed the height of the tallest museum building on the Mall (the National Gallery of Art East Building) or the cornice height of the Commerce building immediately opposite the NMAAHC site, both about 105'.

The NMAAHC building will have a minimum height that is not out of character (too horizontal) with its surroundings.

### Historic and Cultural Resource Protection Principles

The NMAAHC massing, setback, and height will respect principal views related to the L'Enfant and McMillan Plans and the Washington Monument Grounds and other important views in the Area of Potential Effect.

Service access will be located so as not to diminish views from adjacent open spaces; from the Washington Monument (base and top); or from the broad, landscaped setback of Constitution Avenue.

Views from the top of the Washington Monument will be protected and enhanced when designing and placing mechanical equipment and functions typically located on a museum roof.

Existing landscape features, including trees, paths and topography, will be protected and enhanced.

Opportunities will be created to respect and enhance the experience of the Mall with building and site lighting, solids and voids, and materials selection.

### Visitor Use and Access Principles

Ample outdoor space for NMAAHC programs and activities and opportunities for programming outside of typical hours will be provided.

Landscape features such as themed landscaping that connects with the NMAAHC program will enhance the site.

### Visitor Experience and Access

Opportunities will be explored for pedestrian connections to the National Museum of American History.

Multiple entrances to NMAAHC will be provided that accommodate different group purposes and that facilitate public circulation from the Mall and Monuments and other museums, and from public transportation.

### Functional Principles

Effective museum operation will be accomplished through independent loading and service facilities, while also addressing any opportunities for efficiencies.

Adequate flood protection will be ensured through selected design and construction techniques, such as limiting underground facilities in the area of high water table.

Opportunities will be explored and implemented for sustainable use of water resources.