

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 22, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Sculpture Base Removal and Confederate Monuments Update**

Please find below an update regarding the various ongoing efforts related to the Sculpture Base at Oak Lawn Park and the Confederate Monuments.

Sculpture Base at Oak Lawn Park:

Before the removal of the stairway, seating, and plinth (collectively, “the base”) was initiated where the Lee sculpture was formerly located, the work site area was secured with fencing. Also, the removal plan developed by the conservation consultant was completed and reviewed with the Park and Recreation department’s Parks Facilities Services division, which is performing the work.

The removal of the base began on January 30, 2019. As of February 20, 2019, the stairway and seating have been removed and relocated to temporary storage at a Park and Recreation Facility. The consultant team from Phoenix I continues monitoring the progress and documenting the archival removal of the pieces, which is on-schedule for completion in March.

Furthermore, although the plinth, which supported the sculpture, has not yet been opened, a metal object was found in one of the pillars on a side stairway. This may or may not be the time capsule but appears to be a metal box that has collapsed. The item was transferred into the City Archives for additional investigation and preservation.

After completion of the work at Oak Lawn Park, OCA will prepare for a public opening of any time capsule found at the site. This will require arrangements for a controlled environment that can preserve the contents.

The Confederate Monument:

Following City Council adoption of Resolution 19-0296 on February 13, 2019, staff has submitted a Certificate of Demolition or Removal (CD) for consideration by the Landmark Commission.

Additionally, we anticipate completing the procurement of services by April to disassemble, remove, and transfer the monument to storage. Therefore, we have requested that CD hearing be scheduled for the March 4, 2019, meeting of the Landmark Commission.

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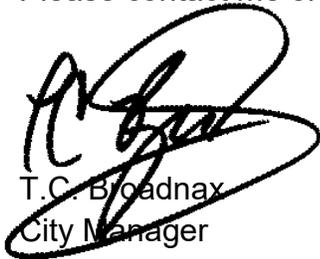
Lastly, obscene graffiti was removed from the base of *The Confederate Monument* on February 18, 2019. DPD officers and building security are increasing their patrols at the monument site. We are exploring additional temporary measures to protect or cover the monument.

Robert E. Lee Sculpture:

As you recall, the City Council voted on April 25, 2018, against directing the City Manager to procure a fine auction house for the sale of the Alexander Phimister Proctor sculpture, *Robert E. Lee and Confederate Soldier* (the “Lee”).

However, considering the vote this month for removal of *The Confederate Monument*, OCA staff will solicit proposals for a fine auction house to sell the Lee monument and schedule City Council consideration of that contract by April 2019. If approved, the proceeds from the sale could be used to offset the costs for the removal of both the sculpture and monument.

Please contact me or Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager, if you have questions.



T.C. Broadnax
City Manager

- c: Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)
Carol A. Smith, City Auditor (Interim)
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
- Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
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