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**We must
walk on in
the days
ahead
with an
audacious
faith in
the future.**

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The mission of the Friends of MLK is to empower and encourage the Quad City area to practice the civil and human right for all races, colors and creeds as exemplified by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.



A location with history and potential.



501 Brady Street.

This location was chosen for this project in light of its' local historical significance.

Serving as a nexus for black excellence and resilience, this project hopes to preserve and display the history of Davenport as it relates to people of color.



The area around this park has a long history with the black population of the Quad Cities. This neighborhood was frequented by African-Americans traveling through via the Chicago-Pacific railroad. Additionally, the 501 Brady Street location was the site of a mixed-race restaurant/entertainment/roaming house from at least the 1800s to the 1940s.



The Plan

A place for remembrance, growth, solitude, gathering, and celebration.



The designs for the MLK Park feature several areas designed to reflect both the legacy of Rev. Dr. King, and the history of African-Americans and other people of color in the Quad Cities.



The entrance of the park is framed by a large stone arch in the silhouette of Rev. Dr. King. A reminder, as you enter the space, of what it stands for.



The name of the park is displayed in brightly colored letters and a distinctive font on the corner of Brady Street, visible to passing traffic.



An exciting feature of the park are these standing displays surrounding the lower area. These displays will be living historical exhibits, constantly changing to reflect connections to current affairs and keep the community returning.

While the MLK Park will provide areas for learning and remembrance, it will also serve as a gathering area for community events and artistic expression.



The central space of the park has been designed in a pedestrian-friendly 'V' to support community gatherings like farmers markets, art festivals, and more. Vendors will have ample space to line the sidewalks while the community gathers on the interior grass.



Directly across the grass from the park entrance is a stage. This space will support talks and performances of all kinds.



PROJECTED TIMELINE

- December 2020 Begin bidding Process for Architectural Services
- January 2021 Architectural Contract begins with Streamline
- January 2022 Begin Park Campaign
- April 15th Contract Awarded to Estes Construction
- TBD Construction Begins
- Summer 2023 Construction Completed



FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS TO DATE

- City of Davenport - \$500k secured
- Scott County Regional Authority - \$125k secured (4 installments of \$31,250)
- Regional Development Authority - \$125k secured
- Downtown Davenport Partnership - \$10k secured
- Ascentra Credit Union - \$2,400 secured
- Private donor - \$10k secured
- Fundraising - \$4,580

The Time is Now

To invest in the Quad Cities

To invest in Downtown Eavenport

To invest in the African American Community

To invest in preserving our history

To invest in a legacy



QUESTIONS

