



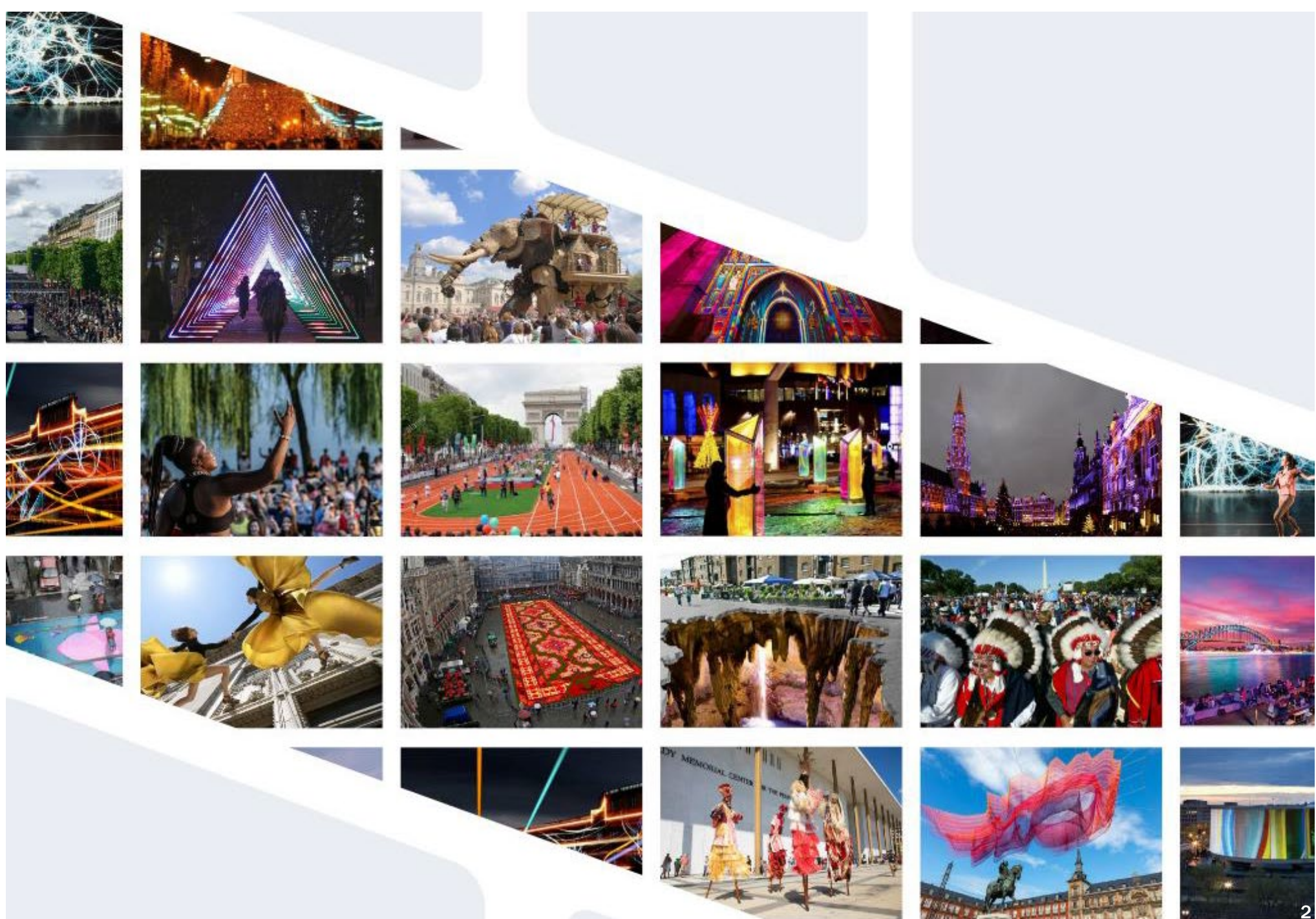
Pennsylvania Avenue Vision and Concepts

Information Presentation to MWCOCG TPB Access for All Committee – September 2, 2022



Pennsylvania Avenue Vision and Concepts

- Background
- The Vision:
*The Avenue
as a Venue*
- Conceptual
Approaches
- Next Steps

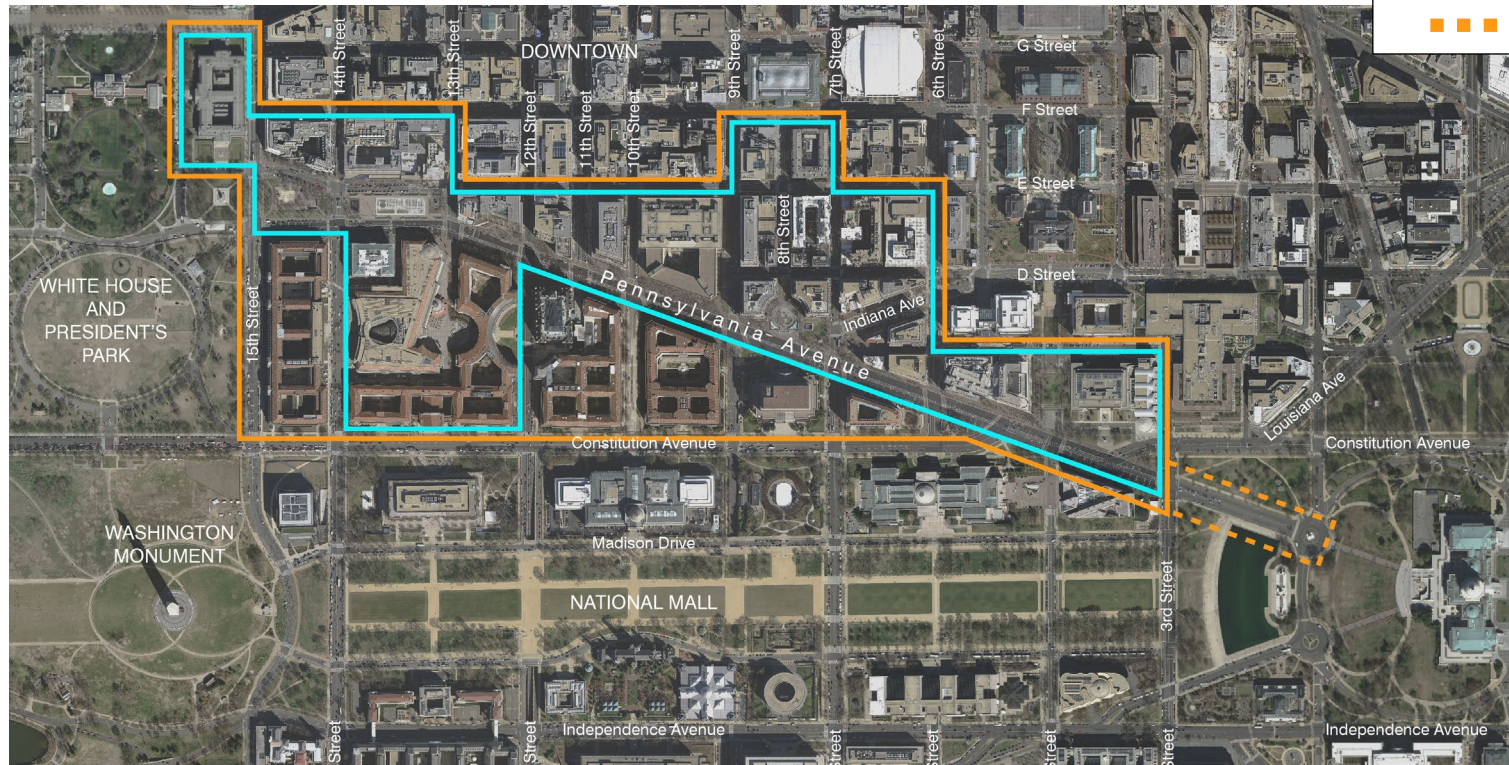


Background

The Initiative

Purpose:

- Envision a new future for the Avenue
- Modernize infrastructure and improve programming
- Update the 1974 Plan and governing agreements



Study Area Map

	PADC Boundary
	Study Area Boundary
	Extended Area of Interest

- The Avenue spans 1.2 miles between the White house and U.S. Capitol
- The Study Area covers 12 city blocks including 40 acres of open space
- The land use mix is predominantly federal offices and private commercial but includes about 1,500 residents
- It is in proximity to cultural institutions and the National Mall
- It is accessible to several public transit options

Executive Committee



Collaborating Stakeholders

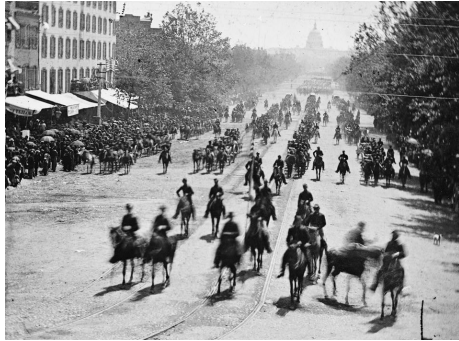
- Events DC
- Downtown DC BID

Background

A History of Ceremony

“In a democratic society, it is usually a public place rather than a building that stands for the commonweal... In the United States a great avenue serves this purpose.”

National Park Service,
The Pennsylvania Avenue District in United States History, 1965



The Avenue is the nation's preeminent ceremonial boulevard

Background

The Avenue Today

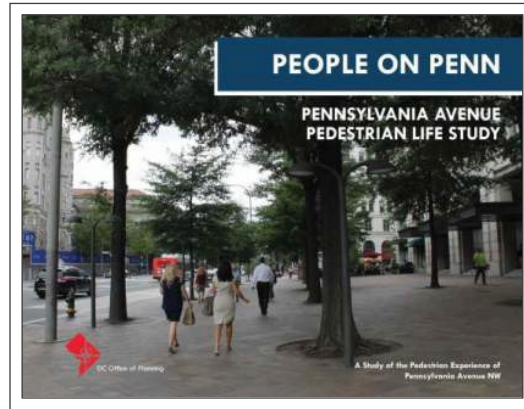
The Avenue is no longer a thoroughfare, has aging infrastructure and declining physical conditions, and does not meet today's needs.



The Avenue terminates at the White House and U.S. Capitol Grounds

Background

Technical Study
Key Findings



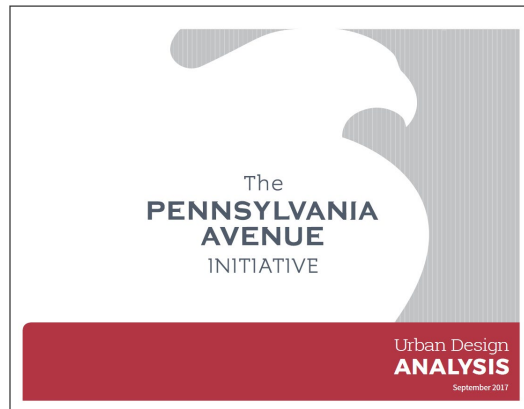
2015 Pedestrian Life Study



2016 Economic and Real Estate Market Analysis



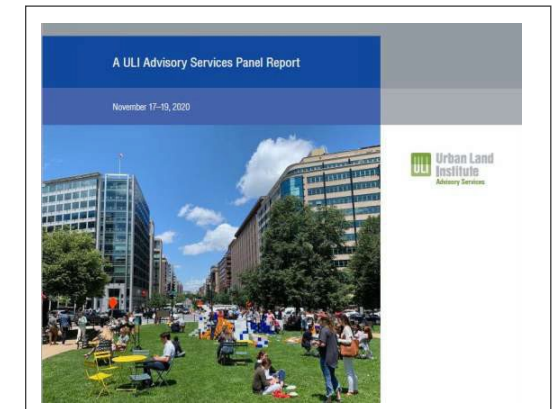
2016 Cultural Landscape Report



2017 Urban Design Analysis



2018 Transportation Study

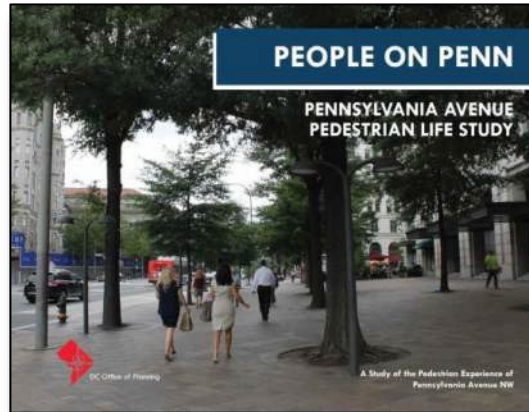


2020 Urban Land Institute Advisory Services Panel Report

Background

Pedestrian and Vehicular Circulation and Accessibility

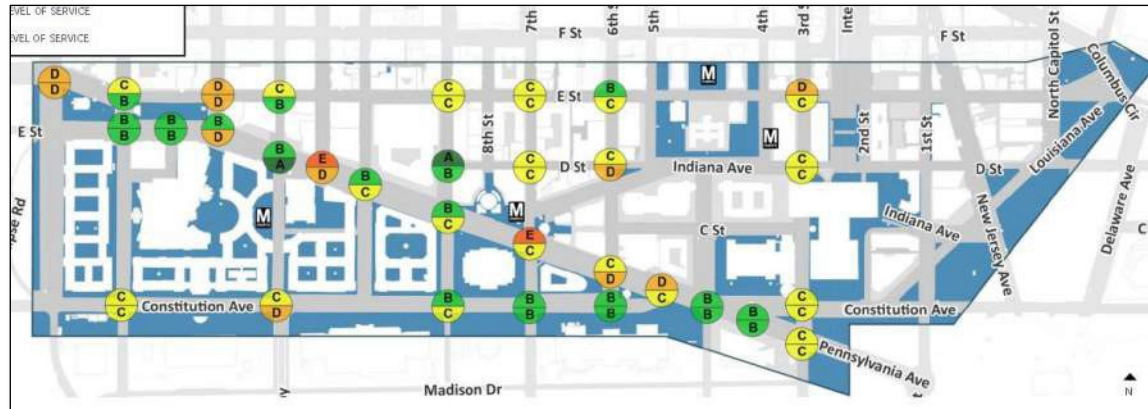
While the Avenue is a transit corridor serving all 8 Wards with ample public space, it is not pedestrian friendly nor well connected to downtown or the National Mall.



2015 Pedestrian Life Study



2018 Transportation Study



Existing Vehicular Level of Service

Key Findings

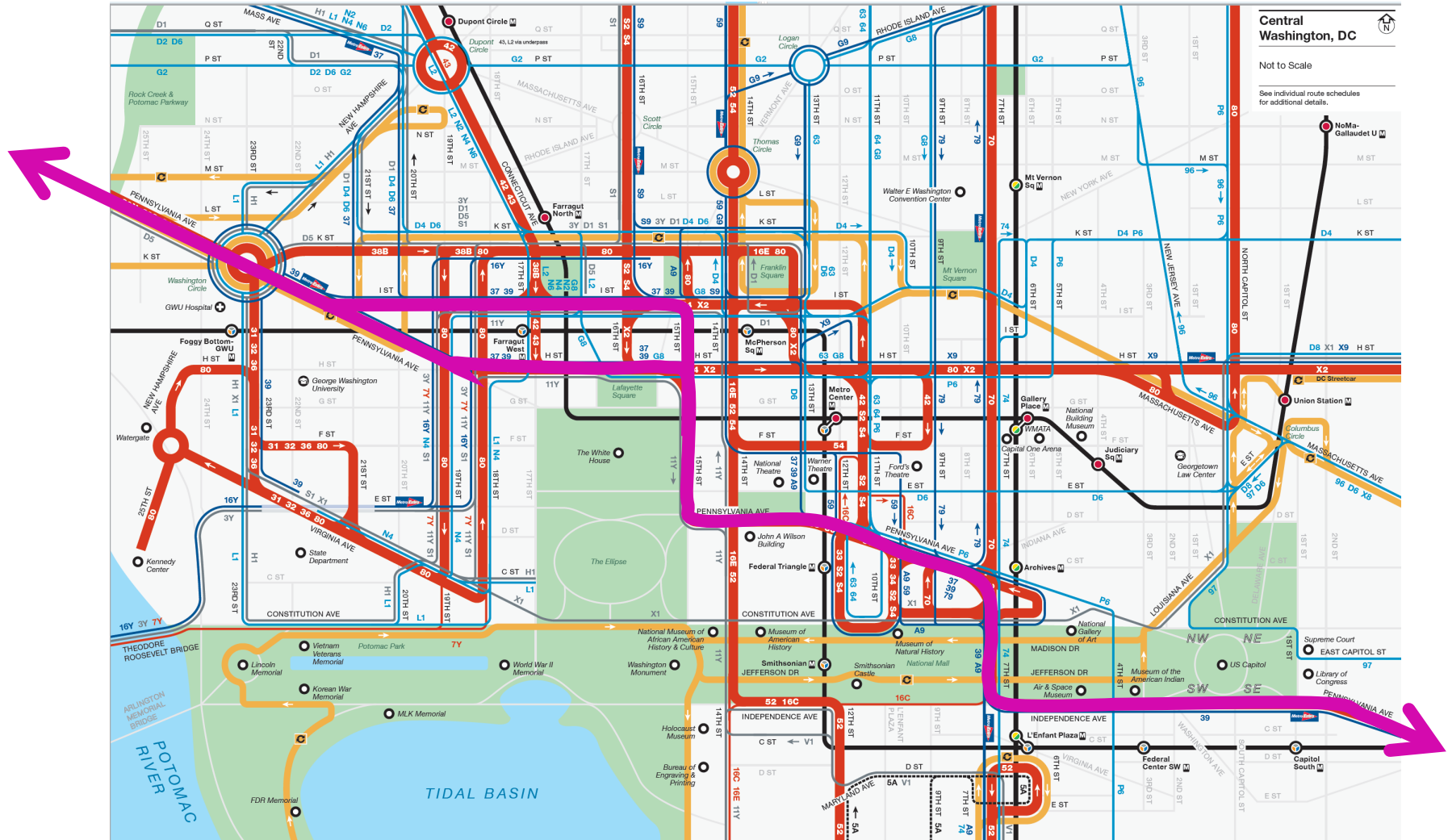
- 20 feet of roadway available for other uses while maintaining acceptable level of service.
- E Street and Pennsylvania Avenue closures at the White House reduced east-west vehicular traffic
- One of the busiest transit corridors in the region with up to 80 buses an hour.
- Center bike lane carries nearly 2,000 bicycle trips per weekday.
- Pedestrians must share the median space with bicyclists, often resulting in conflicts.
- Lack of east/west connectivity leaves motorists accessing major north/south routes more often.

The Avenue as a Venue

Planning for Transit

Goals include strengthening the existing bus network:

- Add dedicated bus lanes
- Shifting bus routes to accommodate regular programming
- Plan for rerouting buses around major events



The Vision

The Avenue
as a Venue



The Avenue as a *Venue*

- An Inclusive Venue and Economic Generator for the city,
- An Iconic, Inviting and Resilient Public Space for the nation.
- Create an *awe-inspiring public realm*.
- *Modernize the Infrastructure* for 21st Century needs.



The Vision



A Street for People

Prioritize space among pedestrians, bikes, transit and cars by:

- *Right-sizing the street and reallocating space*
- *Realigning the roadway*
- *Reconfiguring public space*

The Avenue as a *Venue*

The Urban Rooms

The corridor and rooms and their immediate environs can support programming for events of various scales, activities, and audiences.



The Avenue *as a Venue*

Three Conceptual
Approaches

Urban Capital Street

A complete street with comfort amenities and service that create a go-to place and respite for locals and tourists.



Linear Green

Prioritizes transit, people, and bikes, creating a unique destination for outdoor gatherings and connection to nature.



Civic Stage

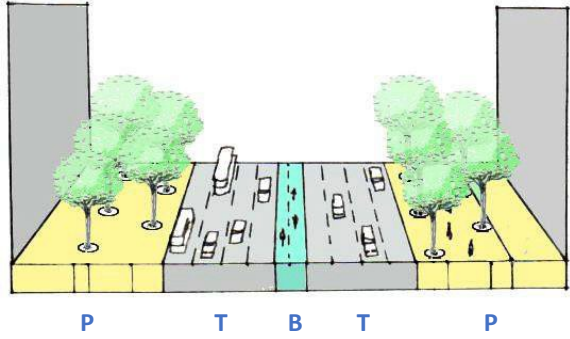
Centers pedestrians within a large median promenade with flexible public spaces that create iconic venues for a range of national and international events.



The Avenue as a *Venue*

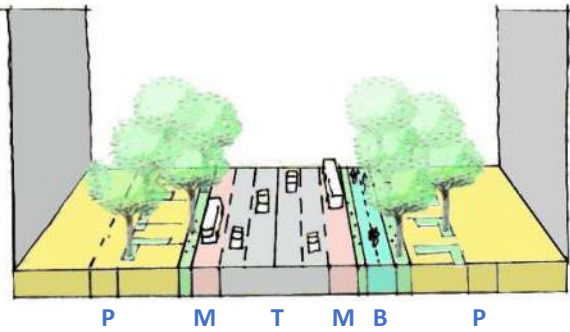
Right-of-Way Allocation

The Avenue Today

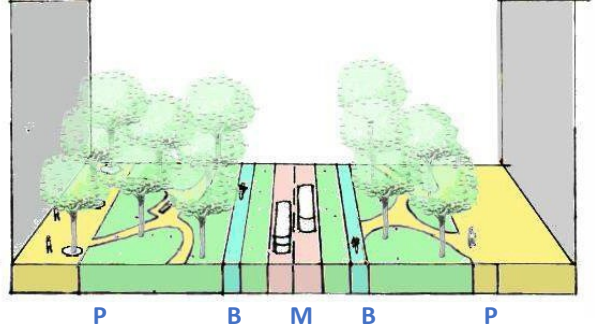


Key
 P Pedestrians
 B Bike
 T Travel
 M Transit

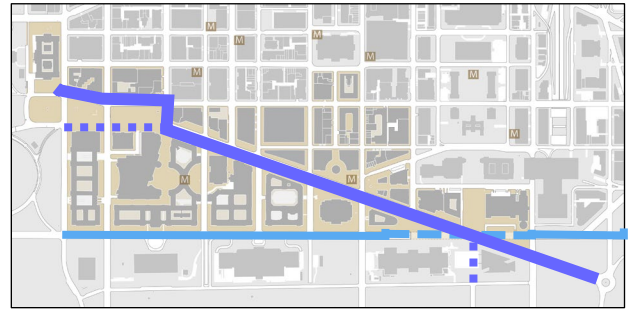
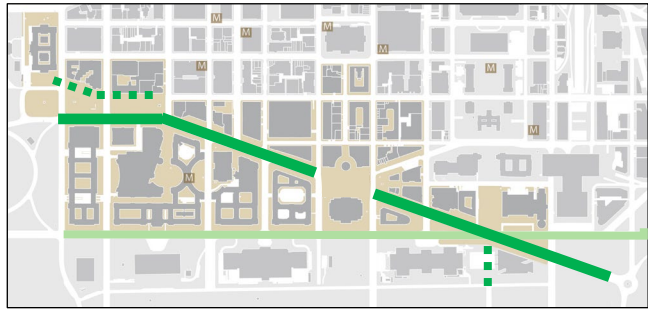
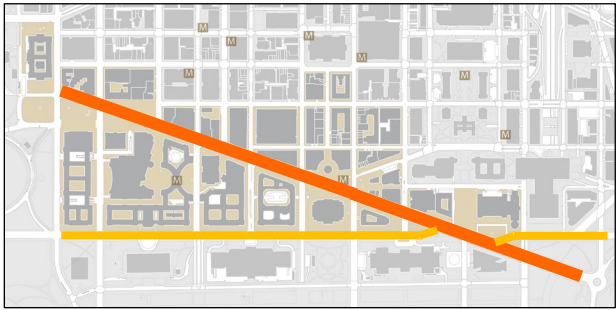
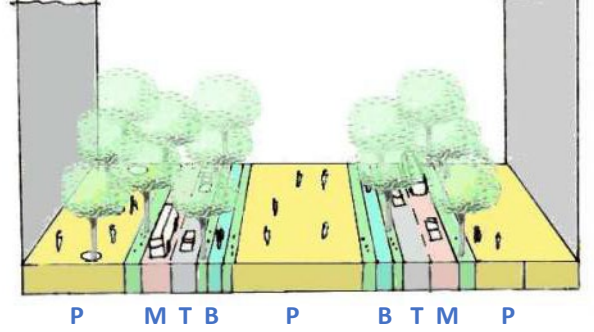
Urban Capital



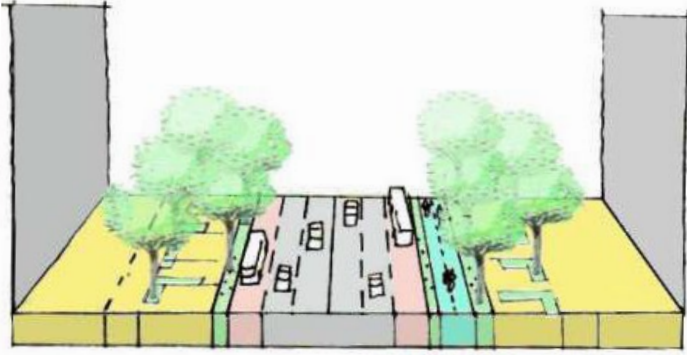
Linear Green



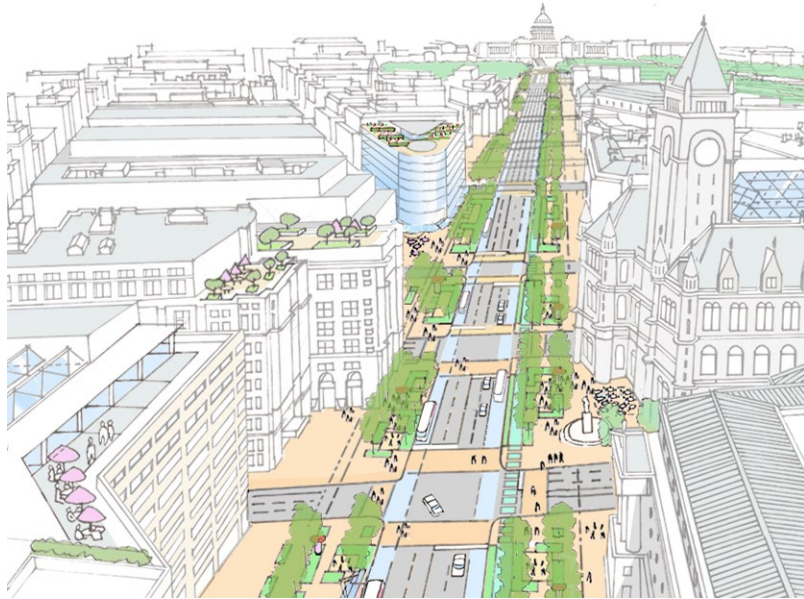
Civic Stage



Urban Capital

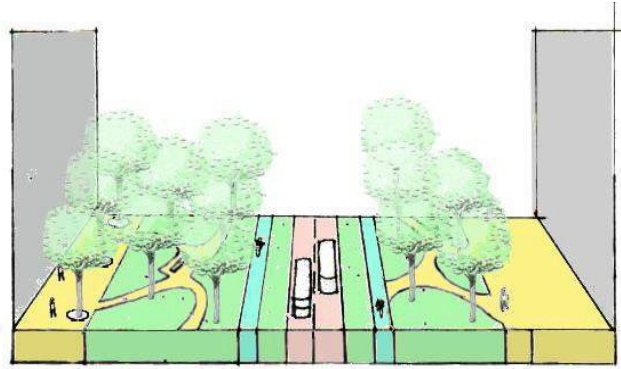


Expanded sidewalks provide room for unique and varied pedestrian “pockets” and places for activity and mobile commerce.

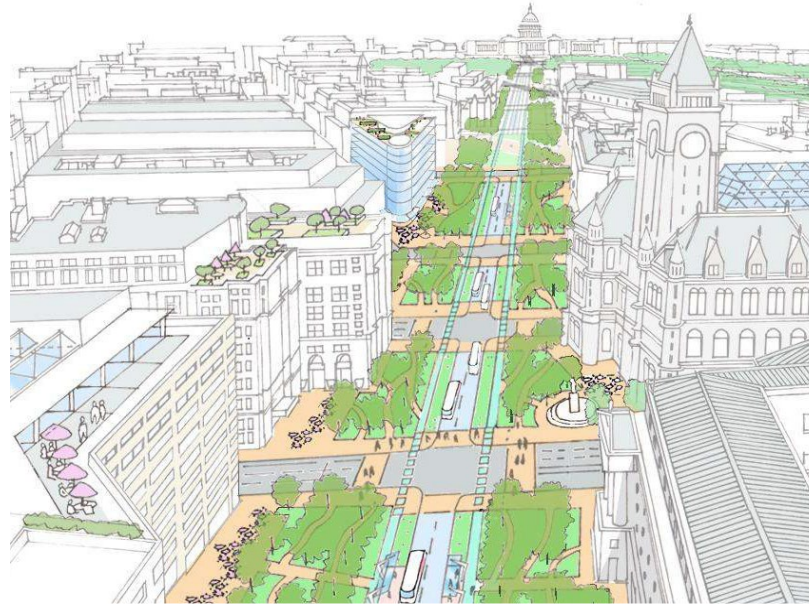


A Complete Street

Linear Green

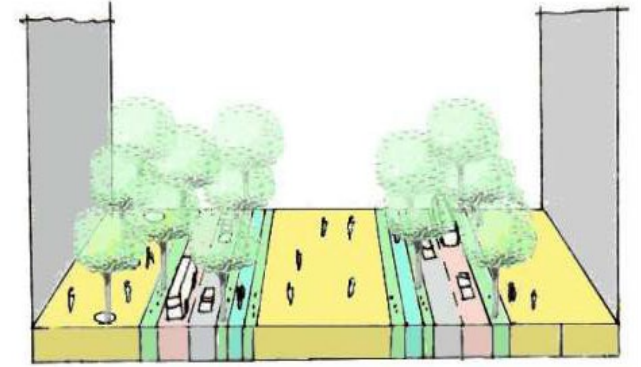


Pedestrian paths weave through the linear park landscape, creating informal areas for seating and recreation.



A Transit-Only Urban Park

Civic Stage

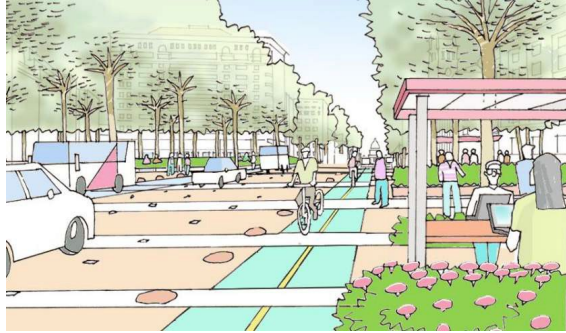


A grand promenade provides pedestrian space with Capitol views extending the length of the Avenue.

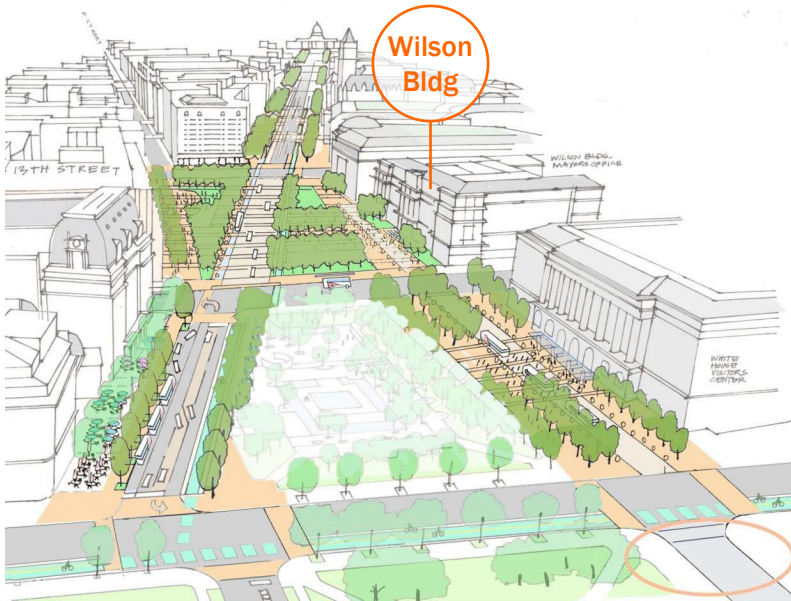


A Central Promenade

Urban Capital



Restores diagonal alignment with a curbless street creating two bow-tie open spaces -- a new City Hall Plaza and National Theater Park.

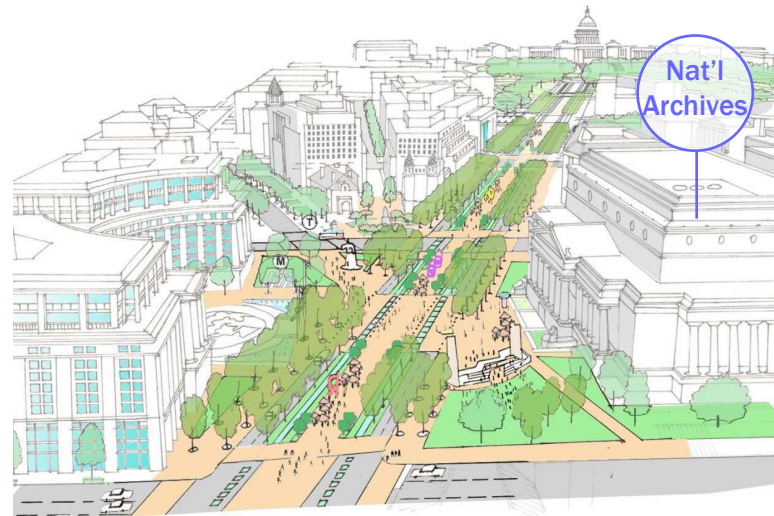


Western End: New Bow-Tie Plazas

Civic Stage

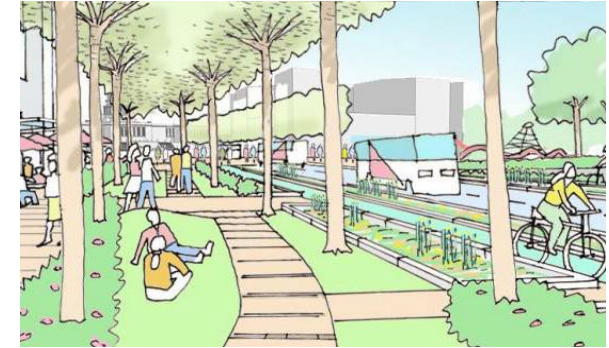


A new generous mid-block pedestrian crossing joins with the center promenade to create a central square.

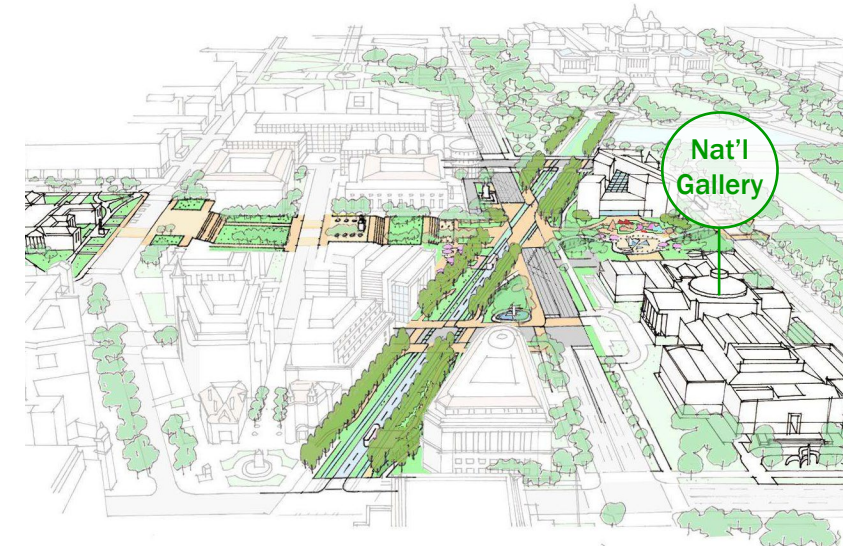


Market Square: A New Central Square

Linear Green



Realigns Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues and permanently closes 4th St. to improve connections; create more usable and flexible spaces.



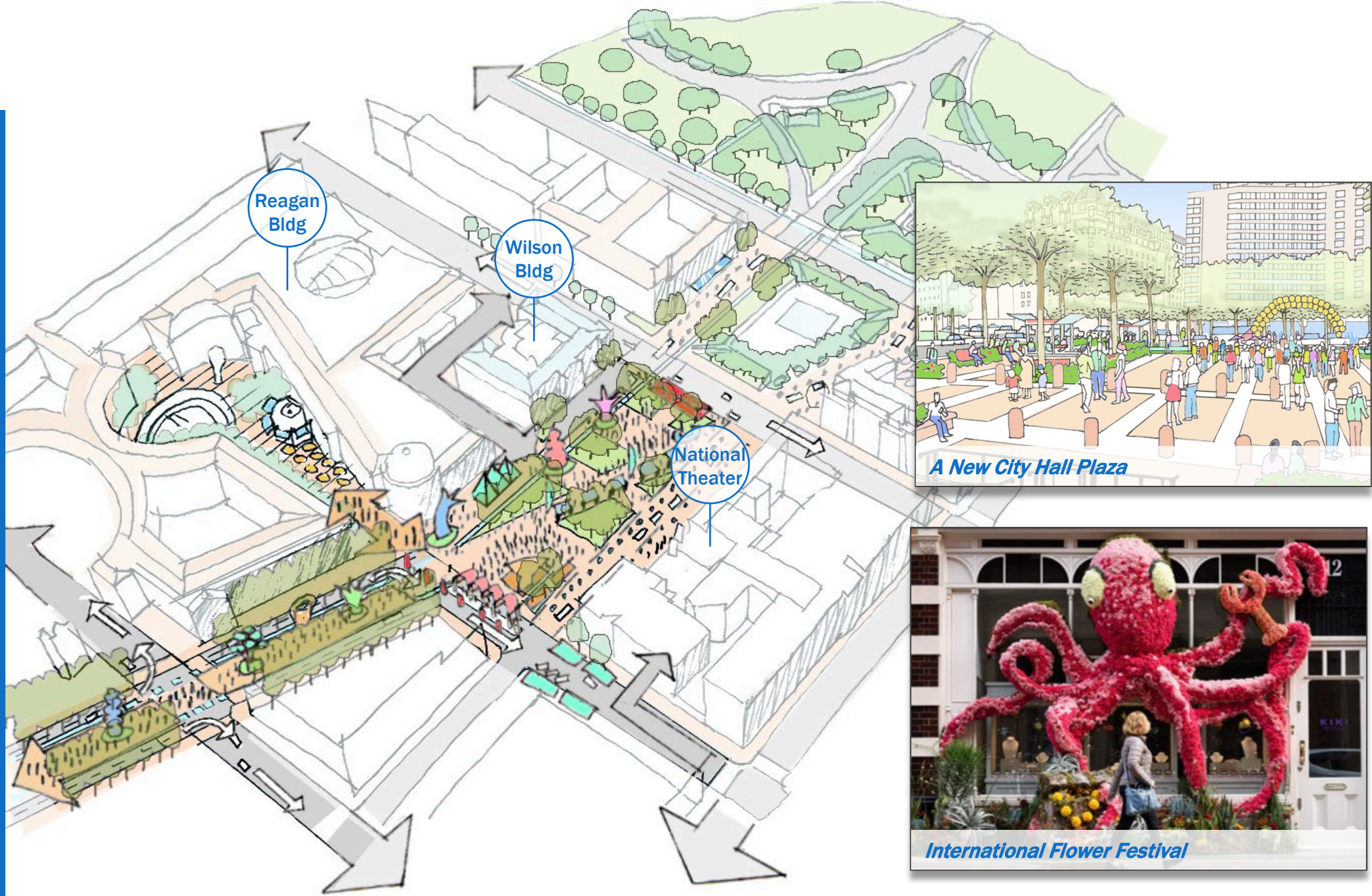
Eastern End: A New Civic Plaza

The Avenue as a Venue

The Western End

This shows an example of a multi-day flower festival.

The plaza configuration can be flexible to expand the event space to the adjacent buildings. Temporarily rerouting traffic can extend event activity down the Avenue and into Wilson Plaza.



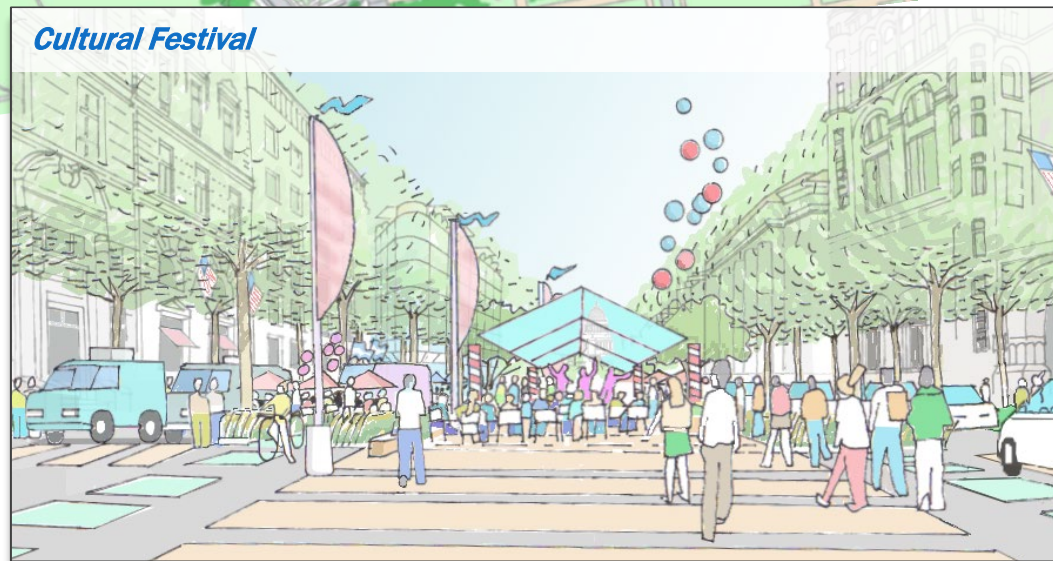
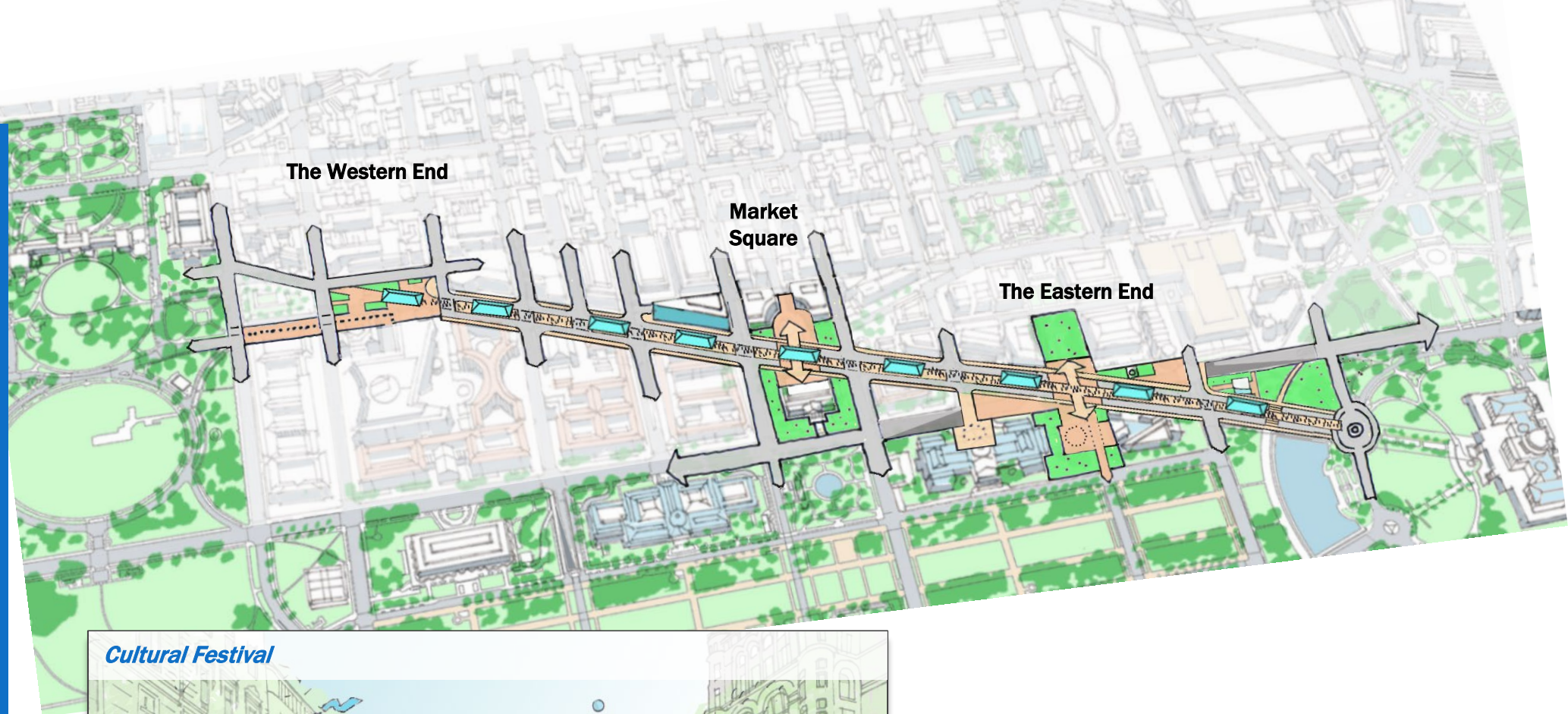
The Avenue as a *Venue*

The Entire Avenue

This shows an example of a month-long cultural festival.

The Urban Rooms can combine with the corridor to transform the Avenue into a mile-long venue.

A center promenade could provide ample space for festival structures and visitors, potentially allowing some travel lanes to remain open or be used for additional programming support.





What's Next?



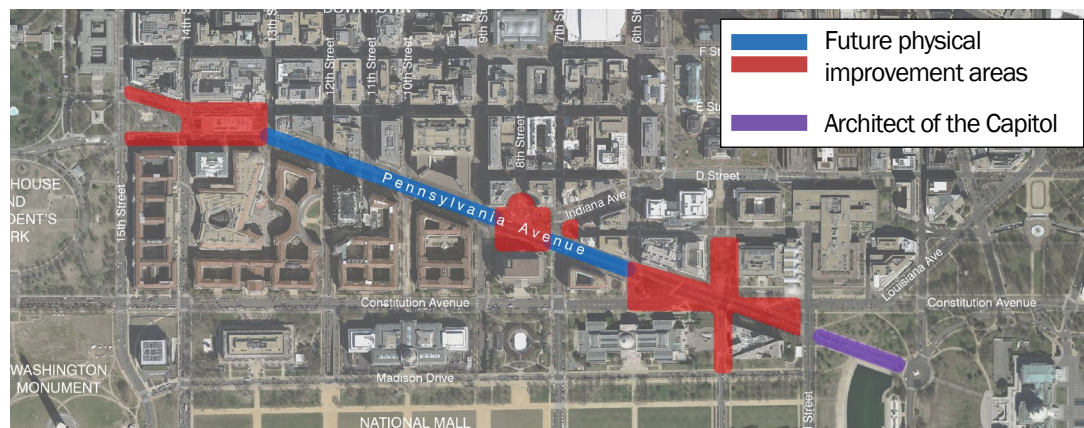
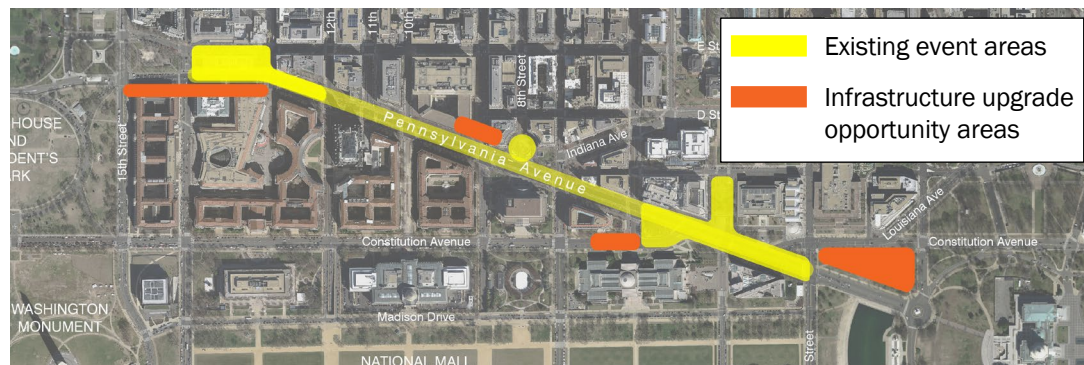
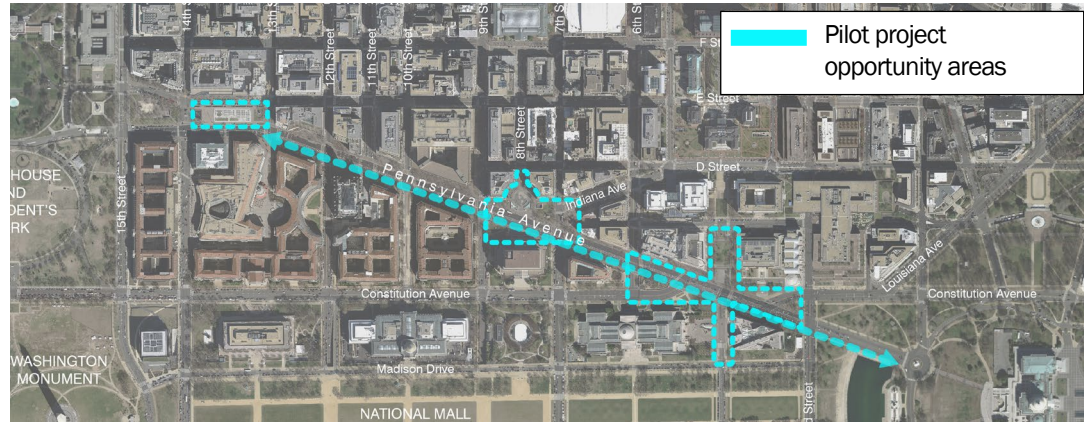
The Avenue as *a Venue*

A New Plan for the 21st Century

- *Infrastructure and Public Space Plan*
- *Implementation Plan – Phasing and Funding*
- *Governance Structure and Regulatory Framework*

The Avenue
as a Venue

Incremental
Improvements



NEAR-TERM – Pilot Projects

Potential locations for pilot projects to test feasibility of future improvements

MID-TERM – Event-related Infrastructure

Potential locations for infrastructure upgrades to ready the Avenue for national Independence anniversary events in 2026

LONG-TERM – Improve Overtime

Improvements to the urban rooms and the corridor can be sequenced and phased based on future needs / priorities



Thank You

