



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Martin Luther King Jr., NHS
450 Auburn Avenue, NE
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-331-5190 phone
404-730-3112 fax

National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 18, 2013
CONTACT – Catherine Light -404-557-2042

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site to host a Commercial Services Strategy Public Meeting

ATLANTA, GA-The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site is hosting a public meeting Tuesday, July 24, 2013 at 6:00pm to gather input on a proposed strategy for Commercial Services operation within the national historic site district. The meeting will be held at historic Fire Station No. 6 (Second Story) on the corner of Boulevard and Auburn Avenue. The meeting will feature a presentation outlining some of the possible improvements that could become part of the historic site such as a Bed & Breakfast, Vendors, Professional Networked Tours, Café' among other services. Meeting participants will have an opportunity to comment on the ideas presented, and to indicate their preferences. The Park has begun intensive planning effort aimed at improving the visitor experience in the park. The goal is to develop a "Commercial Services Strategy for the 21st Century" that will set priorities and identify potential new ways of partnering with businesses, partners and the community to provide visitor services within the historic site. Development of the Commercial Services Strategy will be a cooperative effort, with participation by all stakeholders and members of the general public.

Specifically, the Commercial Services Strategy Plan identifies opportunities to enhance the park's mission and the visitor experience through public/private partnerships. The purpose of the plan is to: **Describe the desired future conditions of the park for visitor use and commercial operations; Analyze potential commercially managed visitor services opportunities as recommended by visitors, volunteers, partners, park staff, and other relevant stakeholders; Create a tool for quickly and easily evaluating existing and potential businesses; and, Prioritize business opportunities and outline an action plan for potential implementation.**

For more detailed information on the development of the Commercial Services Strategy for the park can be found at www.nps.gov/malu/parkmgmt/publicinvolvement.htm.

For further information, or to provide feedback, please contact Kelly Chang via email at Kelly_chang@nps.gov or Catherine Light at 404-331-2246 or via email at Catherine_light@nps.gov.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site and Preservation District was established by Congress on October 10, 1980 to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit, inspiration, and education of present and future generations the places where Martin Luther King, Jr. was born, where he lived, worked, and worshipped, and where he is buried. It consists of more than 38 acres (13 federally owned) near downtown Atlanta. It includes 67 historic buildings, most built between 1890 and 1910.

-NPS-

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE IS COMPOSED OF MORE THAN 20,000 RANGERS, BIOLOGISTS, HISTORIANS, GEOLOGISTS AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS WHO CARE FOR AMERICA'S 394 NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER SPECIAL PLACES SO THAT EVERYONE TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE CAN EXPERIENCE AMERICA'S HISTORY AND BEAUTY.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.