

*Booker T. Washington*  
NATIONAL MONUMENT

Comment and Evaluation Form

At the end of this meeting, please take a moment to fill out this form and return it to one of the presenters or return it to the address below if you want to take additional time to answer. Your responses will help us make future meetings more useful and effective. Feel free to copy this form for others who could not attend this meeting but are interested in offering their views on the Draft GMP/EIS for Booker T. Washington National Monument. All comments must be received on or before August 11, 1999.

Rebecca Harriett, Superintendent  
Booker T. Washington National Monument  
12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, VA 24101

1. Which public hearing did you attend?  July 19, 1999  July 20, 1999  neither
2. Was the information presented about the Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement clear and informative?  yes  no
3. Are you in support of the preferred alternative, Alternative C?  yes  no
4. If so, please explain why. (use back of form if necessary)
5. If you answered "no" to Question 3, which alternative do you prefer?  
 Alternative A  Alternative B  Alternative D  I have another idea
6. Please explain your answer to Question 5. (use back of form if necessary)
7. What, if anything, would you have changed about this meeting? (use back of form if necessary)
8. Other comments? (use back of form if necessary)

Your name: Carol Althoff Address:

Visitor Center - alternative C  
School " "  
administrative + maintenance alternative C  
Parking " "  
RECREATION - would like boy scouts to be able to use park for camping & service to park -  
Boundary - alternative C -  
Staffing - " "  
Partners - " "



**United States Department of the Interior**  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



**BOOKER T. WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT**  
12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, Virginia 24101

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D18 (BOWA)

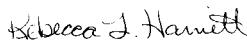
September 30, 1999

Mrs. Carol Althoff

Dear Carol:

Thank you for attending the public meeting and commenting on the Draft General Management Plan for Booker T. Washington National Monument. We have decided to implement Alternative C, which includes expanding the current visitor center and restoring the Booker T. Washington School. We look forward to making these much needed improvements so that we can better tell the story of Booker T. Washington. Thank you for your time, energy and support of Booker T. Washington National Monument. It is appreciated!

Sincerely,

  
Rebecca L. Harriett  
Superintendent

Section Four: Comments and Responses Concerning the  
Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement



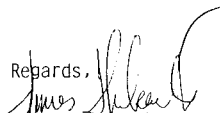
August 2, 1999

Rebecca Harriett  
Superintendent  
Booker T. Washington Memorial  
Hardy, Virginia

Dear Superintendent Harriett:

I would like to respond to the Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Booker T. Washington National Monument in Hardy, Virginia. It would be my recommendation that Alternative C be the NPS choice.

As an organization which has worked with promoting the West Virginia boyhood home of Washington for nearly fifteen years we see the value in a progressive educational program. A program which is comprehensive *and* recognizes the fabulous possibilities that in America can grow out of a red clay tobacco patch. Good luck. . . go forward. . . keep up the good work.

Regards,  
  
James Thibeault  
Director

cc: B.T. Washington Assoc.

*A self-help quilting cooperative since 1970*



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12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, Virginia 24101



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September 30, 1999

Mr. James Thibeault, Director

Dear James:

Thank you for your comments on the Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Booker T. Washington National Monument. We have selected Alternative C because of its focus on preserving the rural landscape plus emphasis on the educational aspects of our programs. We also hope to expand the museum collection and research facilities so that the public will have better access to Washington materials. We always look forward to our continued association with your commemoration of Washington in Malden. Please stay in touch and we will do the same.

Sincerely,

  
Rebecca L. Harriett  
Superintendent

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Rebecca Harriett, Superintendent  
Booker T. Washington National Monument  
12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, VA 24101

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*The meeting was very good.  
Thank you*

Your name: Barbara Witcher Address:



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12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, Virginia 24101

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September 30, 1999

Ms. Barbara Witcher

Dear Ms. Witcher:

Thank you for attending the public meeting about the Draft General Management Plan for Booker T. Washington National Monument. We have decided to implement Alternative C, which includes expanding the current visitor center and restoring the Booker T. Washington School. We hope to improve our educational programming and research resources so that we can better tell the story of Booker T. Washington. Thank you for your interest and support of this national monument.

Sincerely,

*Rebecca L. Harriett*  
Rebecca L. Harriett  
Superintendent

Booker T. Washington  
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Rebecca Harriett, Superintendent  
Booker T. Washington National Monument  
12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, VA 24101

1. Which public hearing did you attend?  July 19, 1999  July 20, 1999  neither
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*See attached*
5. If you answered "no" to Question 3, which alternative do you prefer?  
 Alternative A  Alternative B  Alternative D  I have another idea
6. Please explain your answer to Question 5. (use back of form if necessary)

7. What, if anything, would you have changed about this meeting? (use back of form if necessary)  
*no*

8. Other comments? (use back of form if necessary)  
*See attached*

Your name: JIM ZINCK Address:

Section Four: Comments and Responses Concerning the  
Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

Comments on Booker T. Washington National Monument Draft GMP/EIS Continued:

4. Alternative C maximizes the existing infrastructure, recognizes the historic importance of the B.T. Washington School, and provides for the protection of resources and expands the public use/interpretation of the site in a non adversarial manner.

8. I suggest that the park seek legislation to change its name to a National Historic Site which would be more descriptive of this type of park and its nature would be better understood by visitors.

The development alternatives all graphically suggest the expansion of the trail and interpretative program to include trails closer to the VA 122. With the existing volume of traffic on this highway, the noise and sight of the highway would diminish the visitor's experience using these trails.

The plan should clearly state that an expansion of VA 122 on its existing alignment would severally negatively impact the park's historic resources and the visitor's experience and would not be supported, nor approved by the Service.

The park should explore legal opportunities to be able to cooperate with adjacent landowners to be able to assist them to maintain existing open space, farming and forestry uses that are compatible with the park purpose. Cooperation could include planning and use assistance to leasing the land to maintain compatibility. The park should seek this authority if it does not exist.

The park should seek authority to be able to accept donated preservation easements and fee interest in adjacent lands. This ability would provide the park with a minimal level of being able to protect the historic scene and visitor experience.

The park should review the legislation that was passed to assist Gettysburg to be able to protect adjacent lands several years ago (I believe in the early 1990's). The purpose of this legislation may have application to BOWA.



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12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, Virginia 24101

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
D18 (BOWA)

October 5, 1999

Mr. Jim Zinck

Dear Mr. Zinck:

Thank you for commenting on the Draft General Management Plan/EIS for Booker T. Washington National Monument. We have decided to implement Alternative C that would allow for the expansion of the current visitor center and restore the Booker T. Washington School for public use. We have received funding in 2000 for a historic resource study of the school that will contribute to the restoration research.

Your concerns regarding the expansion of the trail system negatively impacting the visitor experience are correct. We will remove that component from Alternative C in the final plan. The land will remain in agricultural use to preserve the historic scene.

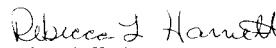
We are researching the feasibility of being able to accept donated preservation easements within our viewshed, but a final decision is still pending.

Your concern about the inevitable expansion of VA 122 is also correct. Although we felt that expansion would not occur within the lifetime of this GMP, a stronger statement about our position is warranted. The park is involved in the Westlake Corner Community Plan where we have supported the recommendation of a by-pass north of the monument.

You also suggested that changing the park's name from "national monument" to "national historic site" might better clarify our identity for the public. This change would require congressional action and we are discussing that possibility with our legislative affairs office.

Again, I'd like to thank you for your thoughtful comments and participation in the discussions during the public meeting. Your support for the monument is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Rebecca L. Harriett  
Superintendent

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Rebecca Harriett, Superintendent  
Booker T. Washington National Monument  
12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, VA 24101

1. Which public hearing did you attend?  July 19, 1999  July 20, 1999  neither  
*? Rocky Mount*
2. Was the information presented about the Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement clear and informative?  yes  no
3. Are you in support of the preferred alternative, Alternative C?  yes  no
4. If so, please explain why. (use back of form if necessary)  
*Need to amplify collection, expand visitor center and physically the site to BTW and ~~the~~ include interpretive programs.*
5. If you answered "no" to Question 3, which alternative do you prefer?  
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*You have looked at Partners' info. Wonder you - what about Blue Ridge Institute of Jubal Early Reservation - both have more practical possibilities to increase attendance than your 'pie in the sky' alternatives. Why not utilize and amplify local resources - local Fr. Co. Tourism, Smith Mt. Club (check page 26-28)*

Your name: J. Francis Amos, m.d. Address:



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12130 Booker T. Washington Highway  
Hardy, Virginia 24101



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September 30, 1999

Dr. J. Francis Amos

Dear Dr. Amos:

Thank you for attending the Rocky Mount public meeting on the Draft General Management Plan for Booker T. Washington National Monument. Your thoughts and comments are always appreciated.

We have decided to implement Alternative C because of the need to improve the current space limitations at the site. Your comments about the current status of our museum collection is accurate and one of the reasons we embarked on this comprehensive plan. With the archeological artifacts uncovered over the past two summers, we will continue to build on this collection.

You also expressed concern about our efforts to develop future partnerships outside of the local area. The park already enjoys numerous partnerships in Franklin County with membership in the two chambers and as a member of the Franklin County Tourism Advisory Council. We have a cooperative agreement with Ferrum College where student volunteers monitor water quality and conduct flora/fauna studies. Although we do not have formal agreements with the Blue Ridge Institute and the SML 4-H Center, we do work on projects of mutual interest like Elderhostel and help promote each other. We have collaborated on programs with the Historical Society of Western Virginia, the Harrison Museum of African American Culture and Explore Park. We receive excellent support and promotion from the Roanoke Visitor and Convention Bureau, Bedford and Lynchburg COC and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The list goes on. I agree with you that partnerships begin at home, but we have to expand our outreach so that others can learn about Booker T. Washington.

We look forward to working with the Jubal Early Preservation Trust on joint educational programs. What an opportunity for our school children to visit both historic sites to compare and contrast the compelling stories and perspectives of each!

Again, thank you for your constructive comments. If you ever have any other concerns or thoughts about the site please call me at 721-2094.

Sincerely,

*Rebecca L. Harriett*  
Rebecca L. Harriett  
Superintendent