

Grand Canyon National Park
Arizona



Desert View Inter-tribal Cultural Heritage Site

Desert View Inter-tribal Cultural Heritage Site Plan / Environmental Assessment

Public Scoping Meeting
February 20, 2018



Desert View Inter-tribal Cultural Heritage Site

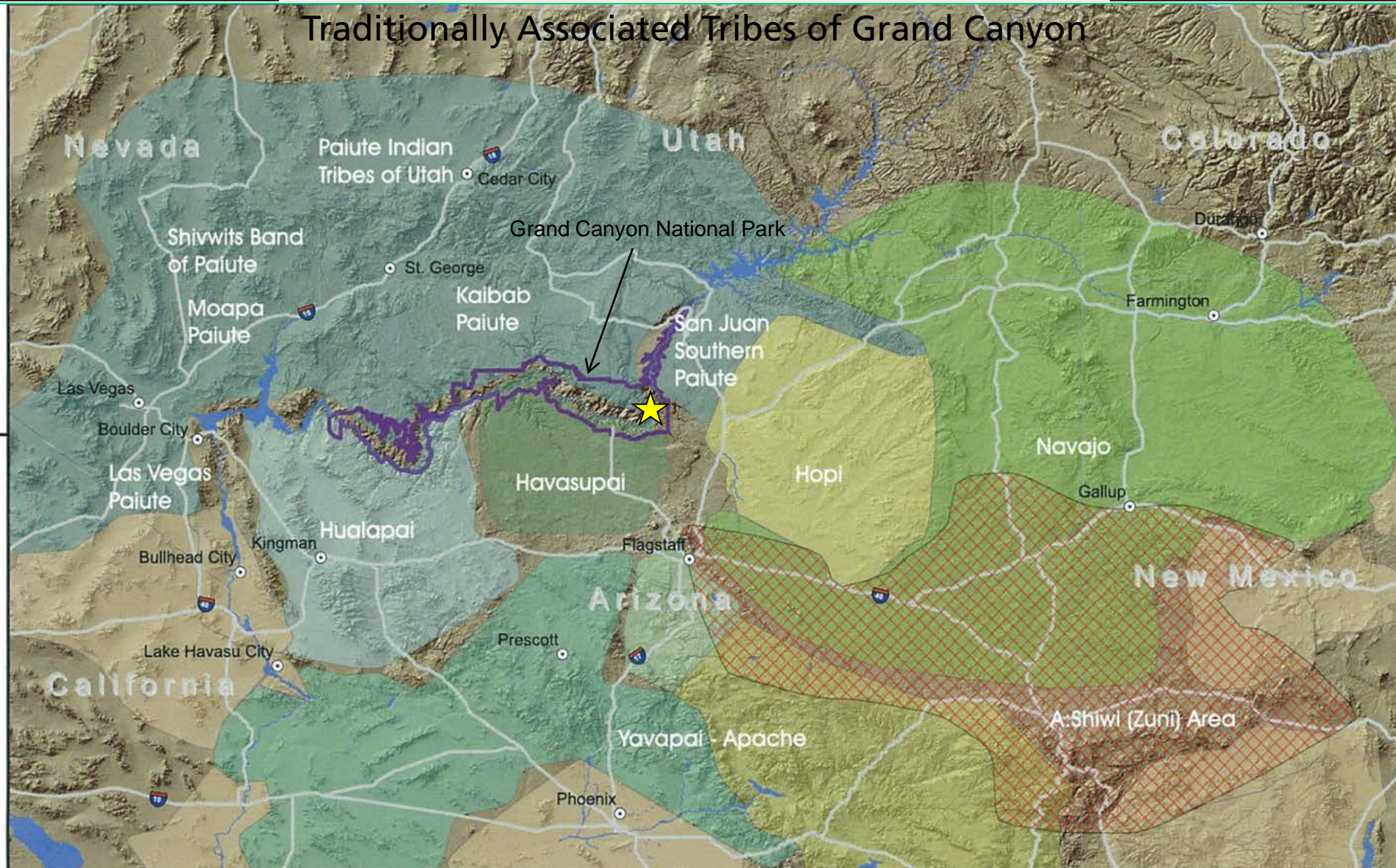
Overview of this Presentation

- Background
- Project Purpose and Need
- The Planning Process and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Preliminary Alternatives
- Description of Issues



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Traditionally Associated Tribes of Grand Canyon





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Project Background

Traditionally associated tribes are tribes that

- regard park resource as essential to its development and continued identity as a culturally distinct people
- association with the park has endured for at least two generations
- the association began prior to the establishment of the park

NPS Management Policies 2006



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Project Background

Inter-tribal Advisory Council (ItAC)

- Representatives from the Associated Tribes
- Grand Canyon Association
- American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA)
- Park Staff



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Project Background

Inter-tribal Advisory Council (ItAC)

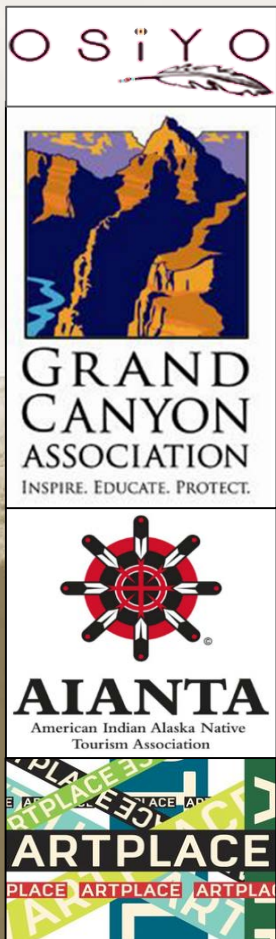
- Generates ideas for collaboration and tribal involvement
- Focus areas
 - Foundation and sustainability
 - First-voice interpretive programming
 - Employment and internship opportunities
 - Respect individual tribal cultural representations



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Project Background

Partnerships



San Juan Southern Paiute
Tribe of Arizona

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Project Background

Cultural Demonstrator Series





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Project Background

Ancestral Lands Program





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Project Background

Mutual Respect Among Tribes

- Acknowledge the distinct identities of each tribe
- Prepare tribally specific protocols for demonstrations
- Culturally appropriate crafts for demonstrations
- Support tribal economies





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Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to increase opportunities for first voice tribal interpretation, improve visitor orientation, and enhance the overall visitor experience at Desert View in Grand Canyon National Park.



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What is the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)?

- Requires federal agencies to
 - Analyze the environmental impacts of federal actions
 - Engage the public and federally recognized tribes in the decision-making process
- The federal agency prepares a written Environmental Assessment to determine if a federal undertaking would significantly affect the human environment



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What is Public Scoping?

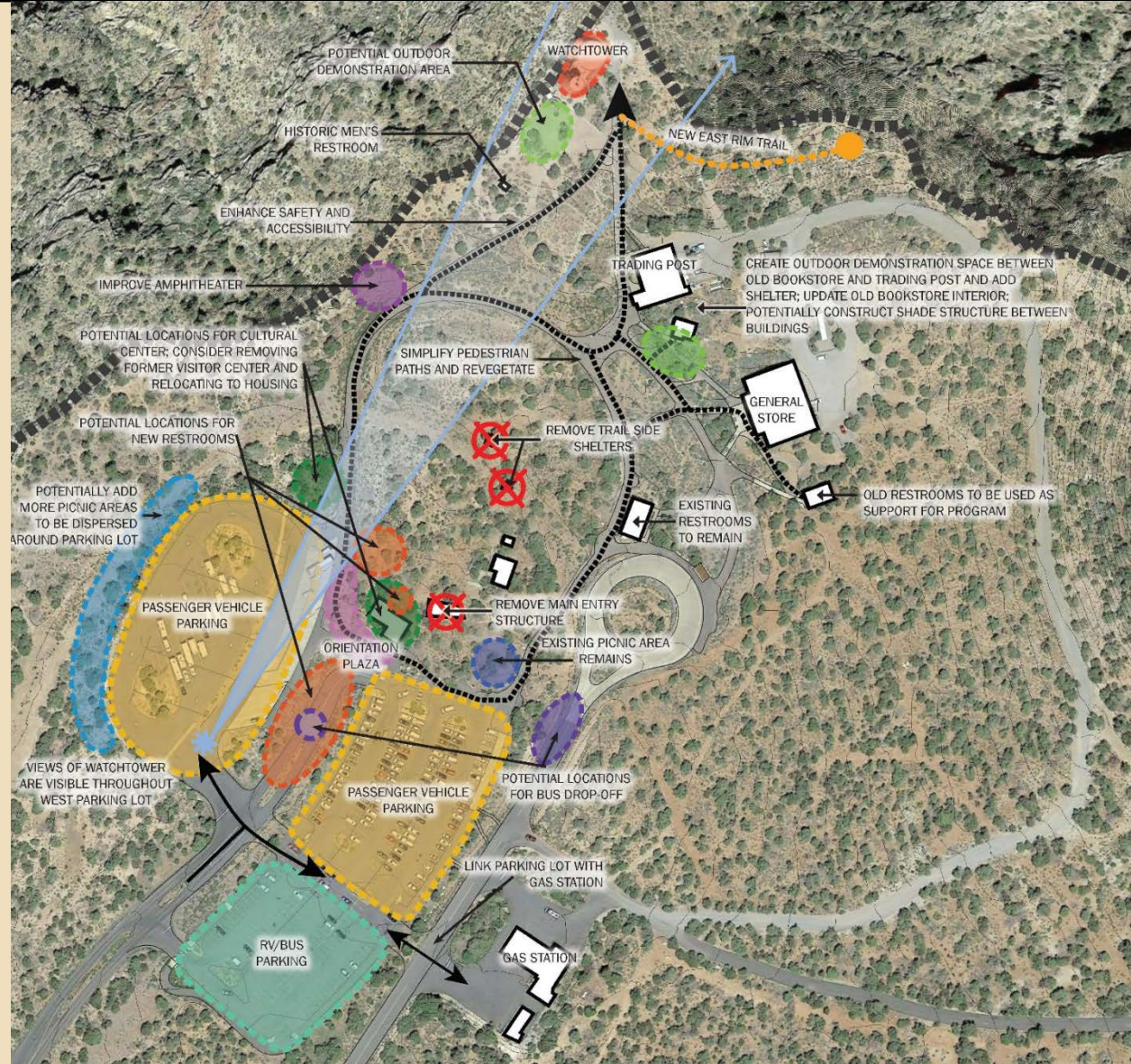
- The beginning of the NEPA process
- An opportunity for the public to provide early ideas about:
 - the purpose and need for the plan
 - issues and impact topics that should be addressed
 - alternatives that should be evaluated
 - sources of information that should be considered
- Public scoping began February 5, 2018 and runs through March 6, 2018
- You can provide comments at any time during this period



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Proposed Action

- Increase opportunities for authentic first-voice tribal interpretation
- Improve visitor orientation
- Enhance overall visitor experience
- Proactively respond to increasing visitation
- Embrace a unique opportunity to partner with associated tribes

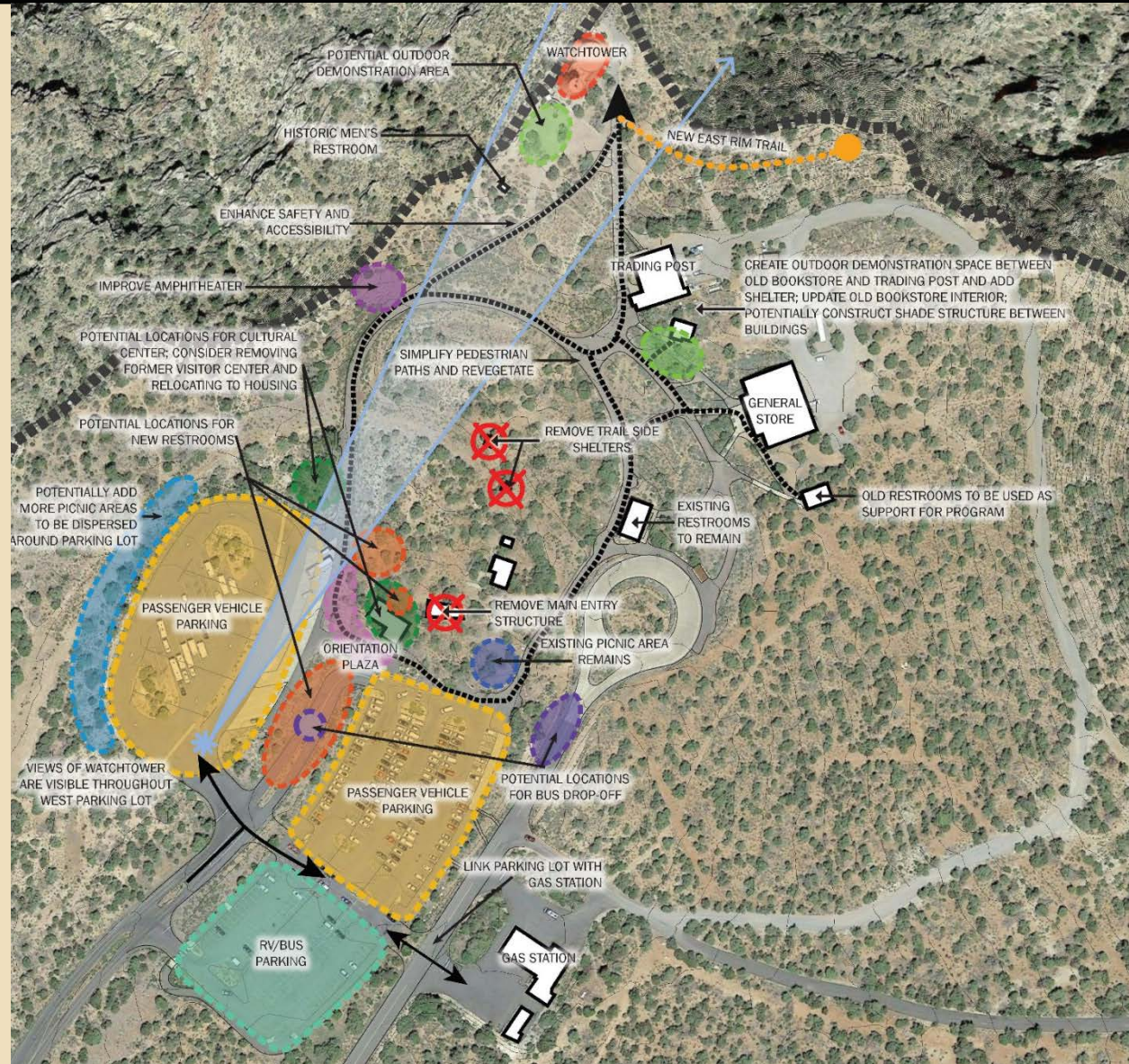




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Items under consideration:

- Remove underutilized shade structures
- Remove the central walkway
- Construct new restroom facility near parking area
- Adaptive reuse of former visitor center building or
- Construct a cultural center

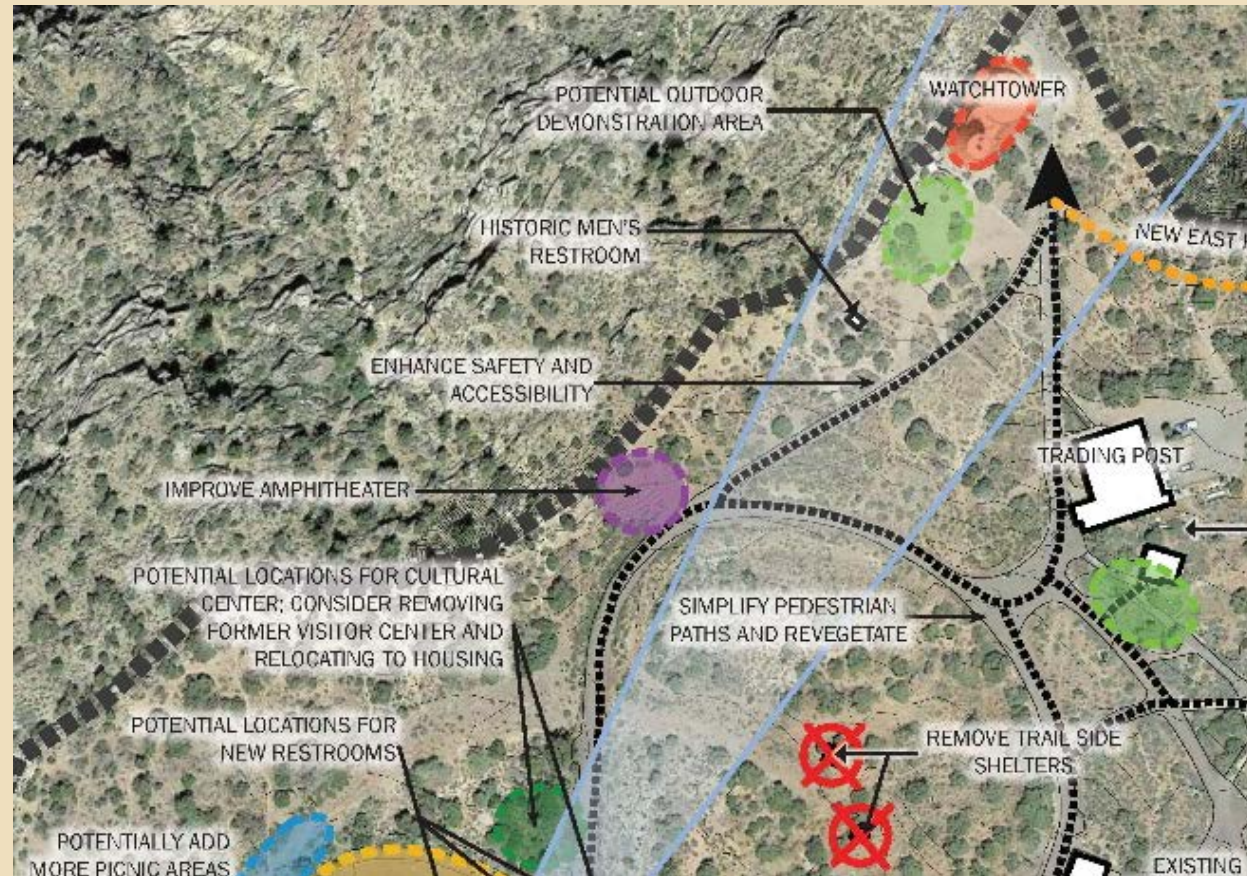




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Items under consideration:

- Formalizing east and west rim trails
- Expand or improve existing amphitheater
- Construct a performance area
- Improve site accessibility
- Improve utility infrastructure

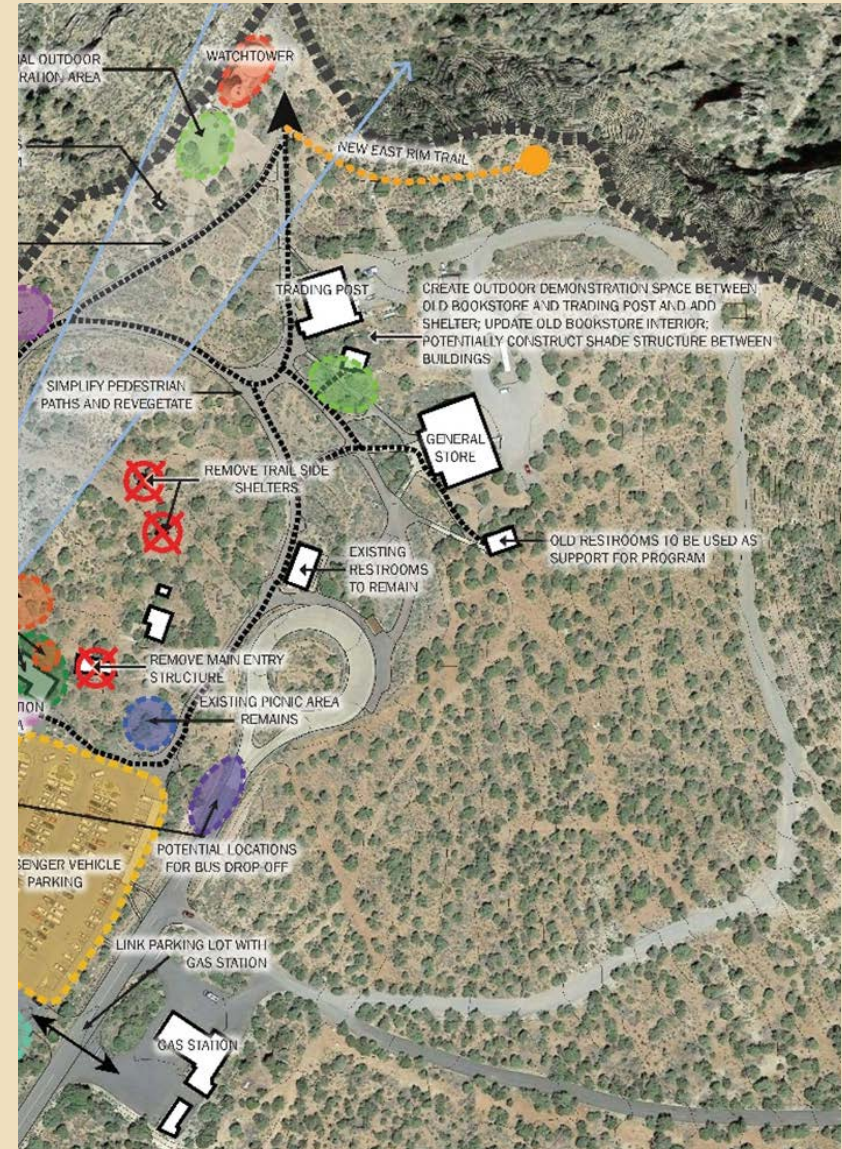




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Items under consideration:

- Create outdoor demonstration area suitable to food
- Remove unnecessary paths and revegetate and naturalize areas
- Relocate bus drop-off areas
- Add additional picnic areas

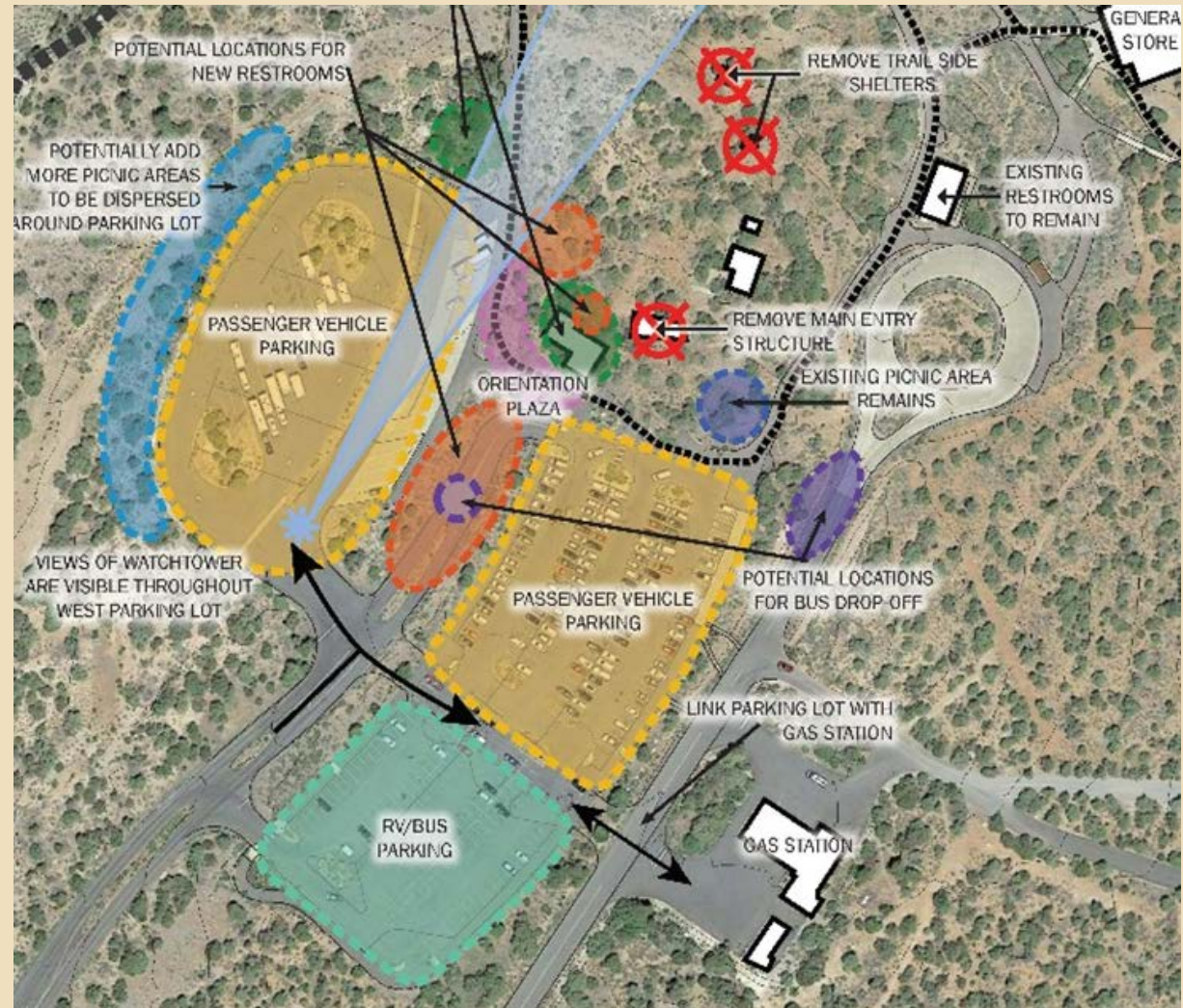




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Items under consideration:

- Restripe parking areas to add additional POV parking
- Construct new restroom facility near parking area
- Improve road access to gas station and campground





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Steps in the Environmental Assessment Process

February 2018	Public Scoping Period Begins	WE ARE HERE
February 2018	Public Scoping Meetings	WE ARE HERE
March 2018	Public Scoping Period Concludes NPS Reviews Public Scoping Comments	
Spring/Summer 2018	Develop Alternatives, Analyze Impacts, and Write EA	
Fall 2018	EA Available for Public Review and Comment / Public Meetings	
Fall 2018	NPS Review and Analyzes Comments and Prepares Errata	
Winter 2018/2019	NPS Issues Decision Document	



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We Welcome Your Input and Comments!

Comments can be submitted during this open house:

- Comment forms available at the comment station
- Online by visiting

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/DesertViewICHS>

Comments may also be sent to the address below:

Superintendent
Grand Canyon National Park
Attn: Desert View EA
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86203

Public scoping comments will be accepted until **March 6, 2018**



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What input is most helpful?

Comments on:

- The purpose and need for action
- Alternatives and mitigation measures to be considered

Specific Resource Concern?

- Cultural resources (including historic buildings and landscapes)
- Visitor experience and services
- Vegetation
- Wildlife



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"We share Desert View as a symbol to bond the peoples of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. The Watchtower serves as a connection to embrace the heartbeats of our peoples and visitors far and wide with the heartbeat of the canyon...We are still here."

- Inter-tribal Advisory Council Vision for Desert View

