



## Shaping the Future of the King Family Home



### » A MESSAGE FROM THE PARK SUPERINTENDENT

Thank you for taking the time to join us in this important and meaningful planning process for the King Family Home.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park (the park) commemorates the lifetime achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a leader of the modern American Civil Rights Movement, and preserves and interprets several locations important to his life and legacy.

In 2018, the National Park Service (NPS) acquired the King Family Home property in the historic Vine City neighborhood of Atlanta. Purchased by Dr. King and Coretta Scott King in October 1964, the home is where Dr. King lived with his family and continued his work in the expanding Civil Rights Movement until his tragic assassination in 1968. It was here that Mrs. King continued his legacy and established the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Center known today as the King Center.

The NPS has begun the planning process to develop a plan to restore and rehabilitate the home in a manner that protects the historic material and character while opening the home to the public so they may visit and learn of the life and legacy of Dr. King and his family while they lived there.

Now, the NPS is asking for your input during the planning process for this important project. Please review the information in this newsletter, join us for a public meeting, and provide your comments on the issues and strategies that should be considered.



### Join us at a public meeting

#### Sweet Auburn

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

3:00-5:00pm

Historic Fire Station 6  
39 Boulevard NE, Atlanta

#### Vine City

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

5:00-7:00pm

Neighborhood Union Health Center  
186 Sunset Avenue NW, Atlanta

## PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

The purpose of the project is to prepare a site plan for the King Family Home to guide management of the newly acquired property. Through this project, the National Park Service will develop long-term strategies for preserving and protecting the King Family Home and minimizing impacts to the surrounding neighborhood. Additionally, the National Park Service will explore options to provide opportunities for visitors to learn the story of Dr. King's life and legacy, including the family's connections to the Vine City neighborhood and their contributions to the Civil Rights Movement.

## KEY ISSUES

The proposed project is needed to address the following key issues:

- » The property sits within an urban residential neighborhood separated from the rest of the park, its visitor center, and staff offices by approximately three miles.
- » There is insufficient space for visitor parking, including accessible parking, within the immediate vicinity of the home.
- » The home is aging and in need of repairs to protect and preserve the historic fabric and character.
- » The home and surrounding property are not accessible for visitors and NPS staff of all abilities. The home has stairs and elements that may not meet modern codes and prove unsafe.
- » The park does not currently interpret the story of the King family while they resided in Vine City and their connection to the neighborhood and community.
- » There are no restrooms or other visitor facilities on the site or within the home.



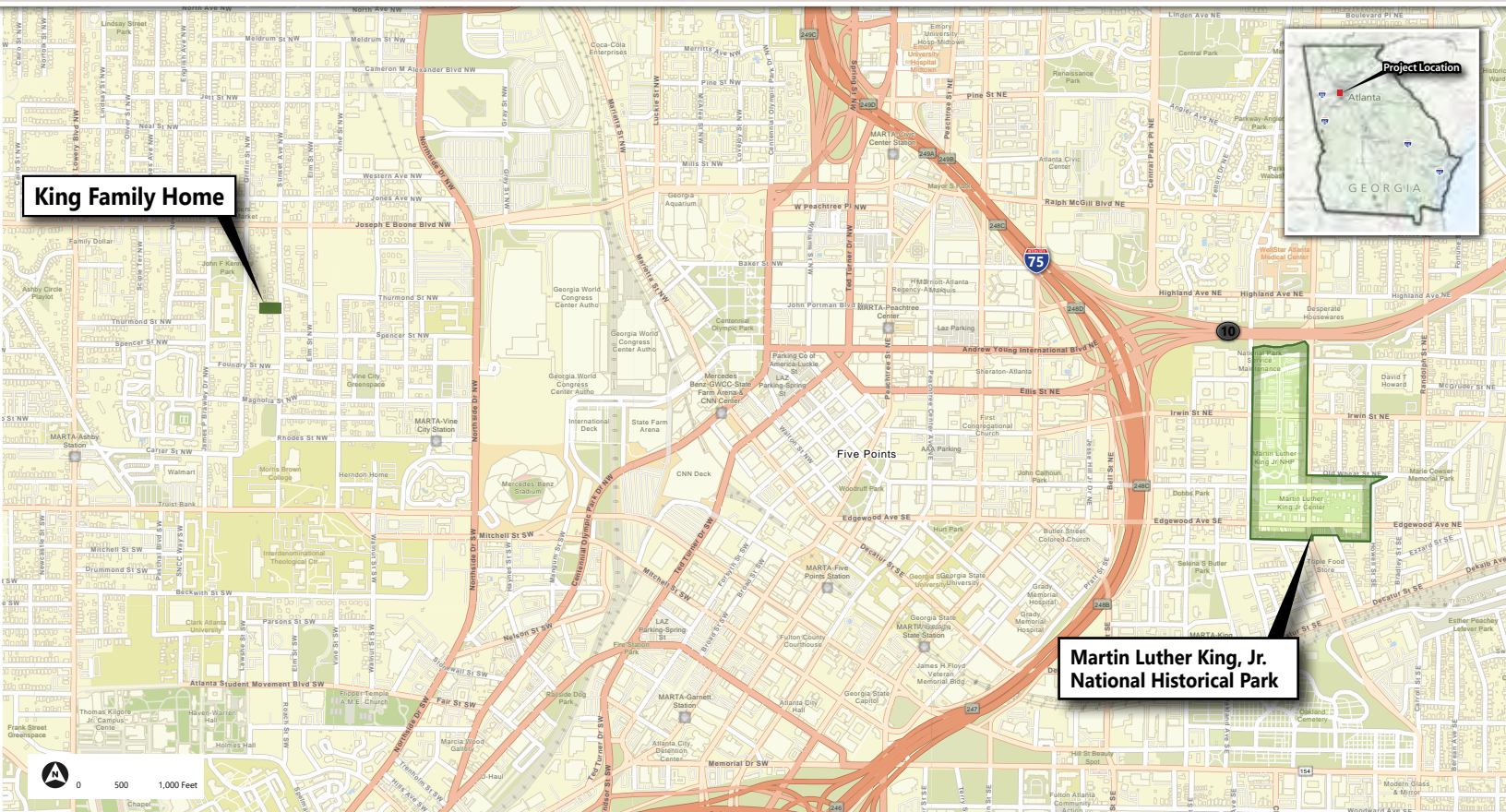
## POTENTIAL STRATEGIES

During this early planning phase for the project, the NPS developed ideas for potential strategies to address the issues described above.

- » Provide information for visitors to travel to the King Family Home independently, such as via personal vehicle, bicycle, and/or public transportation. Consider ways to provide dedicated transportation for visitors between the King Family Home and the rest of the park.
- » Identify possible locations for dedicated visitor parking within the vicinity of the King Family Home.
- » Offer guided tours of the King Family Home and tell the story of Dr. King, his family, and his legacy. Consider ways to include the family's connection with the Vine City neighborhood.
- » Provide an area for visitor orientation and comfort prior to touring the home. This could be an area within the home or in a separate structure on the site.
- » Provide accessible routes into and through the home for visitors of all physical abilities. Potential strategies for this could include the use of ramps or small lifts.
- » Provide areas for NPS staff office, breakroom, and materials storage on site.
- » Consider ways to provide visitor and/or NPS staff facilities in an expanded park footprint such as through partnering with nearby landowners or other boundary expansions.



## » PROJECT VICINITY



## » KING FAMILY HOME LOCATION



>> WE WOULD LIKE YOUR INPUT

As an integral part of the planning process, the NPS is asking for your input. Please consider the following questions and share your thoughts about the issues and potential strategies. Thank you for your interest in this important project!

- 1. The King Family Home is part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park but is separated from the rest of the park by about three miles. If you were a visitor, how would you prefer to travel to the King Family Home?
- 2. Do you have any suggestions for visitor parking at the King Family Home?
- 3. How would you like to experience the story of the King family and the King Family Home?
- 4. Do you have any other ideas for strategies that we should consider?

>> YOU'RE INVITED

The NPS will host two public meetings. Please join us for one to learn more about this project and to provide your comments. The information provided at both meetings will be the same.

Sweet Auburn: Tuesday, Jan 30, 2024, 3:00-5:00pm, Historic Fire Station 6, 39 Boulevard NE

Vine City: Wednesday, Jan 31, 2024, 5:00-7:00pm, Neighborhood Union Health Center, 186 Sunset Avenue NW

>> HOW TO COMMENT

Formal comments can be submitted in the following ways:

- 1. Submit comments electronically (preferred method): <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/KingFamilyHome>
- 2. Provide hand-written comments at one of the public meetings
- 3. Mail or hand deliver written comments to park headquarters:

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park  
RE: King Family Home Site Plan  
450 Auburn Avenue, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30312



>> PLANNING PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Milestone	Targeted Schedule	Planning Effort
Civic Engagement	Winter 2024	Engage the public on issues and potential strategies. Public comment period. >> WE ARE HERE <<
Develop and Analyze Concepts	Spring/Summer 2024	NPS staff review public comments and develop possible management concepts.
Prepare Draft Plan and Initiate Environmental Compliance	Fall/Winter 2024	NPS staff write site plan and compliance document for public review.
Public Review of Site Plan and Compliance Document	Winter 2024	King Family Home site plan and compliance document released for public comment. Public comment period.
Decision Document	Spring/Summer 2025	NPS selects the actions or alternative to be implemented and prepares decision document.