



PUBLIC ART AND MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

March 6, 2018

1. Introduction / Review February 7 Meeting
2. Committee Discussion
3. Public Comment
4. Concluding Statements / Next Steps



PUBLIC ART AND MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March Meeting Reference Materials

At the Committee's first meeting in February, Committee members made the following requests for the next meeting:

- Focus on values, what are the community values and what is important to the community.
- Identify and compile public comments that begin the work toward principles; focus on comments that go beyond support to preserve/alter/remove specific objects.
- Focus on public comments that describe WHY the writer supports the idea to preserve/alter/remove objects, for example: "I support _____, BECAUSE_____". The Committee is interested in the "BECAUSE" comments, which provide the foundations to develop principles.

Public comments received to date are primarily supporting the removal of specific artworks and monuments, keeping them in their current locations, or further exploration of their context and significance. Due to recent incidents of vandalism and subsequent media coverage, a majority of the comments are focused on the sculptures of General John B. Castleman, George Prentice, and Confederate objects in general.

While all public comments are being provided to the Advisory Committee, the following information is in response to the Committee's request to compile focus areas of comments received to date. In reviewing public comments made through online forms, emails and letters, staff has compiled a preliminary list of recurring themes and ideas presented through the public comments:

- **Significance of place** – Some comments discuss the relationship of the artwork or monument to its site, and what this relationship reveals about the original intent of the object and its meaning at the site today.
- **Significance of date** – Some comments point out the significance of the date of that an object was created, and whether the date indicates an artwork's or monument's relationship to the movements, propaganda, or campaigns of any particular political or interest group.

- **Intention to oppress** – Some comments question the original intent of public artworks and monuments to oppress or intimidate specific groups within our community, and whether the intention to oppress is perpetuated to the present day.
- **Discrimination and segregation** - Many comments advocate removing or altering public art and monuments that honor individuals for which there is documented evidence of their actions or intentions that discriminate or segregate based on race, religion or country of origin. These comments also include concepts related to racism, slavery, bigotry, hate, and white supremacy.
- **Redemption or reconciliation** – There are many comments that advocate for or challenge the idea of redemption or reconciliation. They present questions such as: Should an individual represented in a public artwork or monument be honored despite specific words, actions or intentions? Can one’s lifetime achievements or contributions outweigh previous actions or intentions? Or are some historic actions or intentions not acceptable for individuals honored in public spaces?

The following pages include a sampling of public comments that exemplify these recurring themes and ideas. Please reference also the complete record of comments received.

40299: We should not have public murals and statues of leaders of the confederacy. The bottom line is that these men of the confederacy fought to keep hatred, bigotry and racism alive. I don't want our city to have statues honoring these men, because I know Louisville is an inclusive community dedicated to bringing different folks together.

40204: Many of these statues are monuments to Jim Crow and an era of terror for marginalized communities. Those that are not are now associated with ongoing and continued terrorism and acts of white supremacy. It is time to remove these monuments to make it clear that public spaces are places where all are welcome and can and should feel safe. Please remove these. They honor oppression and racist ideals.

40217: Who we choose to memorialize and how matters — it is a public declaration of our community's values. We can't say we condemn the Confederacy and slavery yet justify honoring one of its prominent agents because he's not in uniform, because he then went on to be a wealthy landowner, because he contributed to the founding of our parks system (and the extent and value of that contribution has been disputed). Do we value Louisville's parks over the dignity and humanity of Louisville's black residents? Do we only abhor the glorification of the Confederacy when it's holding a sword, or flying from the back of a pickup truck, or shouting hate speech at a neo-Nazi rally? Or do we hold the wealthy, the polite, the bronzed to the same standards as the loud, the uncouth, and the unmistakable agents of hate? I believe many people did not know until recently, or perhaps just never thought deeply until recently, who Castleman was. It is a privilege to walk or drive by statues of prominent men every day and not think about whom they were and what they stood for. But now that we are all talking about it, what will we decide to do about it?

40299: The Statue in Cherokee Park does not celebrate what he did in the Civil War. It celebrates what he did for this community. I would like to see this statue remain in the park. I hope my feelings on this matter will be considered.

40205: Castleman was sentenced to death for spying on the United States, attacked U.S. citizens and the U.S. military, was exiled to France, sold a small piece of his land at a marked up price to Louisville to build Tyler Park (as a result received a nice property value increase for the remainder of his land that he marketed as being near Tyler Park), and was responsible for segregating the parks after seeing African-Americans playing tennis in Cherokee Park, and those parks embarrassingly stayed segregated until 1954. During the Spanish-American war he and his militia did not engage in any actual combat and showed up in Puerto Rico as the war ended. His statue should go.

40204: I wish for you to know that I do not support celebrating hatred. This includes statues that honor those that supported slavery such as the Castleman statue near Willow Park. These icons of hatred should be removed from public spaces & replaced with symbols of hope, and inclusivity for all. Louisville is a community that is an amalgamation of a rainbow of races, cultures, religions & sexual identities. The message we need to show the world is that we have space for everyone and we are looking towards a hopeful, peaceful and colorful future.

I strongly oppose any monument that glorifies the Confederacy, Confederate Soldiers, their acts, actions, victories, and defeats. While some may argue that they represent Louisville's tradition or heritage, I believe that they would be better placed in their appropriate historical context in museums, not valorized in public. They represent a continual reminder of a dark period in history, the repercussions of which echo into the present day. Louisville has far better, more righteous, more honorable citizens, men and women both, to represent its public image. I support the removal of these monuments at any public cost.

40165: I reject the argument that moving a statue is erasing history. Presenting a tangible token is merely helpful in the teaching of history, it is not necessary. With the advent of advanced audio and visual technology, there are many ways to experience histories without hands on artifacts. Moving a statue would, on the contrary, add to the piece's history. I believe that retaining the Castleman statue in its present location, surrounded by expensive homes and ringed by tended gardens, does not place the appropriate judgments on the historical events with which Castleman is associated, nor does it send the appropriate message to persons whose ancestors were egregiously harmed by events prior to emancipation, nor to those who have been personally harmed by the systemic oppression which has continued in many forms up until the present day. I advocate for the relocation of this and any other Confederate memorials/relics/tributes to a museum-type setting, in which items can be curated to ensure that the items can be studied in a manner that does not suggest that Louisville continues to uphold and treasure the ideology widely associated with Confederate symbols.

40203: PLEASE do the right thing with regard to public art by REMOVING that which commemorates racism, colonization, and oppression of those in marginalized communities. I realize this could be a difficult decision, but it can also be an easy one. There is not a shortage of monuments to the history of white men concurring spaces. That piece of our ugly past can never be erased. There is an overwhelming lack of recognition for work done by women, and people of color which did have great impact on many in our communities. Please make Louisville an example of how we can encourage others to embrace diversity by lifting up people and stories that are NOT what we usually see when we look around our US cities. Thanks for this easy way to share my stance on this subject, and for taking swift and clear action here, as there is much more work to be done to help our city become more equitable and safer feeling for all of us.

40206: Take down all Confederate monuments. Melt them down, recycle them, or sell them for scrap. They have no place in the public sphere. They serve to empower racists and bigots, allow them to feel that their beliefs are normal and acceptable, and to both reminisce and feel resolve about their hatred, fear, and false superiority. Doing so doesn't "erase" or "sanitize" history, as our governor and president would make one think. Much as Germany doesn't herald the days of their vicious past, and as the people of Iraq couldn't wait to topple both their regime AND the symbols and idols of the same, we should not allow these vestiges of Jim Crow to remain standing. Mr. Mayor, tear down these statues!

40205: The John B. Castleman Statue is listed in the National Register as a Civil War monument recognizing a Confederate officer, making it a Confederate monument, thus attaching it firmly to a legacy of bigotry, racism and slavery. It was built in the same era that the city's former Confederate monument was dedicated, as the city had no hesitation honoring the Confederacy at that time, and

the Confederacy is mentioned on the plaque. The National Register listing makes it clear that the monument's significance is - above anything else - its connection to the Confederacy. Mr. Castleman was unrepentant about his love for his dear Confederacy, touting his CSA service on the cover of his autobiography, dedicating the book to fellow CSA officers "and to the boys who with them served and feared nothing," printing an introduction by a fellow CSA officer who wistfully reflects on what might have been had the CSA prevailed, and romanticizing slavery (example from Chapter XIII, describing Kentucky slaves: "These slaves were part of every family. Their work was not hard, and their hours of leisure were many...almost always, contentment and happiness prevailed.") This book, published at the end of his life, is not the work of someone who regretted his treason or sought to disassociate himself from it. Rather, it is the work of a proud racist, reflecting proudly on his life and heritage. There is no justification for keeping this statue in a public square. If it is a Confederate monument - and it clearly is - there's precedent for removing it, and a moral obligation to do so.

40206: I have never viewed the Castleman Horse statue as homage to the Confederacy as he also fought for the US army also and was instrumental in land development. Someone suggested rewording the plaque instead of tearing it down. (which I agree with) The statue has history of being a landmark in Cherokee Triangle and has artistic value and is steeped in folk-lore. I think all statues like this should be reviewed and evaluated at this time as Louisville should not be representing offensive groups who rally these monuments out of racism under the guise of saving historical art. Some 'art' needs to be torn down or replaced. While Castleman may or may not be one of them, there are other monuments in KY that definitely should go.

XXXXX: Moving an offensive statue doesn't make it less offensive. It just tells those offended you aren't welcome in the area you move it to. Sad if you use their tax dollars to create that area. These monuments were put in place to remind nonwhite persons and non-Christian folks who's still in charge. You have the opportunity and the moment in history to say forever that is no longer the case.

40217: I feel that any statue or piece of art representing the Confederacy should be promptly taken down. Such work symbolizes bigotry, racism, and a time when our country was deeply divided. All these figures were fighting for the right to own human beings as property which is beyond vile. They were fighting to be openly bigoted and commit violent acts without punishment. I feel that public art should promote unity, celebrate the community, and benefit the neighbors they reside. They should not be a reminder of horrible acts that are triggering to anyone. We need to stop glorifying war and violence.

40204: Any monument that honors bigotry, racism or slavery (and this includes monuments to the Confederacy or Confederate soldiers) should not be allowed to remain on display as a public piece of art. The minimum acceptable response is to relocate them to an exhibit that clearly contextualizes them as part of racist tradition that includes slavery, segregation, and Jim Crow laws. Rather than keeping monuments that glorify those that were on the losing side- militarily and morally- we should erect new monuments to the victims and heroes of the struggle for equal rights for all.

40205: Please remove the statue—it's a reminder of segregation, the confederacy, and treason. It does not represent our community.

The confederate monuments around town have no place standing in 2017. Please have them removed/destroyed, as relocating them would be prioritizing white nationalism over the ideas of freedom and justice.

40205: Louisville is a growing and diverse city which aims to be compassionate, and a Confederate soldier who used guerrilla tactics who also contributed to the segregation of our parks is not the type of person we should honor with a statue. Many people do not know the history behind this statue, and surely would not want it to represent our city or neighborhood upon learning the truth. We urge you to please remove this statue promptly. Thank you for your consideration.

40222: We must balance the kind of society we would like to be with the rights provided with the First Amendment. There is no need for art pieces in public spaces that honor the enemies of America or her values; it only serves to exalt the bigoted values for which they once stood. It is time to move beyond our shameful history. Instead, they should be placed in museums alongside an explanation of why their statue was placed in Louisville, what it represented, and why it was ultimately removed. The President of the United States asked if we should remove statues of Thomas Jefferson or George Washington since they owned slaves. I would urge the committee to consider their history as a whole: Did they actively promote slave ownership? Did they make their last stand on the right to own another person? Did they foment insurrection against their own nation for the right to subjugate black people? I would say there is a difference between Thomas Jefferson and George Washington and people like Jefferson Davis or Robert E. Lee. And indeed, perhaps we should consider adding to any statute of Thomas Jefferson, that while he wrote that all men are created equal, that he himself owned slaves.

40213: Leave the monuments! The Castleman Statue shows a man in suit who created our parks and The American Saddlebread Association. It has nothing to do with slavery nor was it made to depict slavery.

40229: I would very much like for the Castleman statue to be brought down. In the current times, honoring someone who fought so hard to retain a system of society that promoted oppression of others based on race and also their ownership, has no place in our world. It belongs somewhere in a museum, preferably retaining its vandalism marks as a sign of the controversy and the changing shape of attitudes regarding it. These acts are as much a part of the history of the monument as what it stands for. I would very much like to see it torn down

40205: There is a difference between public art as education about history and public art that is glorifying racism, a system of slavery, oppression, etc. It's the difference between having a statue memorializing Adolph Hitler in a German city and having a place to learn about the horrors of WWII at the Holocaust Museum. We are creating a hostile atmosphere for the

diverse people of our community when public artwork exists in a way that normalizes and/or glorifies those who are seen as heroes or symbols of slavery, oppression, violence, etc. What do we want to intentionally create for our community? For me, it's art that inspires, welcomes, celebrates the diversity of the community, the strengths of the community, and the contributions of the community members.

40206: Confederate statues should be removed from public spaces. Removing them does not "sanitize" or cover up history, and keeping them only serves to remind a significant portion of our population that they were, for too long, treated as non-human. Should the Commission decide to keep Confederate statues, I would suggest that historical markers be included with each that explain the Confederacy's attempt to tear apart the United States and the devastating, long-term impact of The Civil War, including segregation, racism and violence against disenfranchised minorities. Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to the discussion.

40204: Any tribute to any person or era related to oppression or genocide needs to be taken down and locked up in a hate museum. Take. Them. Down. This is such a small price but will mean so much to the communities destroyed by them.

XXXXX: Public city art should be a positive reflection or depiction of the people and environment in that city. Sore loser outdated confederates didn't build the south, slaves did most of the work. Maybe all those confederate and soldier statues could be donated to a history museum where people who want to see (who fought and lost) can see them. With so much negativity happening in our society today, the public visual art should be something that makes the passersby feel better after seeing it, or at least NOT something that is only for a select few to remember a history of oppression and segregation.

40216: I believe all confederate monuments should be removed. They are a symbol of oppression and treason.

40205: Thank you for providing a forum to comment on the public art that represents bigotry, racism, and the oppression of black persons and the exploitation of their bodies. I ask that the statues, specifically Castleman, representing these ideologies be removed from public spaces and placed in museums or other historical areas/buildings.

40217: It cannot be said often enough that statues of Confederate leaders and soldiers are symbols of an era that assumed black people were lesser beings, not worthy of equal standing under democratic system. When you consider when most of these monuments were erected, it becomes clear that it was their attempt at revisionist history, remaking the leaders who had been declared traitors as honorable men. It was also making clear to blacks that they were STILL considered lesser beings. I cannot imagine the conversation black parents have to have explaining why these statues still hold places of civic honor in our city and state. As long as they remain, it is a public reminder that Jim Crow is still coursing as a poisonous stream under the surface of our public discourse, that persons who declare the equality of all while defending the Confederate statues, are hiding the guilty secret that believe the "southern myth" and are at

best believers in their right to hold onto their white privilege; and at worst are closet racists. The statues must go.

XXXXX: There is no positive value in relics of the Jim Crow era that were (arguably, I suppose) intentionally put up as symbols of opposition to civil rights. Remember the ugly parts of history, study them, and learn from them. But the statues in our city ought to be something that everyone can be proud of, or at least that doesn't remind half the population that there are still people who consider them less than human.

40207: I was a resident of the Cherokee Triangle for 32 years I walked & drove past the Castleman Statue every day and enjoyed the art. I did not know the history of the man who was riding the horse or why he was placed in that spot. I am disgusted to discover that this man on the horse was a segregationist and traitor to our country and that the statue was funded by people who supported his actions. Take it down. Put a fountain in its place.

40207: The monuments of Confederate War participants need to be removed from public spaces. They memorialize people that fought a war on the side that wanted to continue to enslave people. They were also erected during times when Jim Crow laws were being introduced and the Civil Rights Movement was taking place as a way to continue to threaten black people. To have to drive in your city and see people being honored that wish you didn't exist and have taken violent action try to make that so is inhumane and should no longer happen in our country. Yes we need to teach history but we need to teach all of our history as a country and take responsibility for the fact that the US was built on the back of Native Americans and African Americans both of which were violently forced from their homes. Put the monuments in a museum if you want but do not leave them in public view so as to continue to threaten people. Take them down.

40220: Be on the right side of history. Take this statue down. He was a racist, Confederate traitor. Statues in public squares have never been erected to teach a history lesson; they are erected to honor and venerate. So many overtly racist comments arguing to leave the statue should be a hint as to whether or not Confederate statues have any place in our community. If you want Louisville to be a compassionate city, start by not exalting a traitorous segregationist that fought to keep people enslaved.

40241: Please remove any confederate statues/monuments in Louisville/Jefferson County. They are symbols of oppression and are not art. If Louisville is truly a city of "compassion" we should be leaders in removing relics of hate and bigotry.

40204: I am a staunch preservationist and have been a co-chair of the CTA Art Fair for 20 years. I've done a lot of soul searching on removing the Castleman Statue and have come to the conclusion that it is time to act and remove it. Any monument that glorifies the confederacy or its supporters is now a rallying point for white supremacists. It would be one thing if Castleman "reformed" after the war, but the record shows something different: <http://www.courier-journal.com/story/opinion/contributors/2017/05/26/give-andrew-cowan-statue-thank-him->

parks-eric-burnette/323825001/ Please read the above. It closes with: "We often look back at people like Castleman and shrug and say "ah, well, he was a man of his time." Perhaps that's true. But there's also something timeless about greed and self-dealing; about ignorance and intolerance. Time is no excuse." The time is right to do what's right. I used to love the sight of the monument, but now recognize that it enables, encourages and acts as a rallying point for the worst voices in our society, even though they may not be citizens of our immediate community. It is a painful open wound for African Americans who endure the indignity of having symbols of their abuse and oppression publicly supported and displayed. We have the duty to remove it and replace it with something emblematic of what is right in our past, present and future.

40205: A review of public art and other symbols sanctioned by a government is a good thing. Suggest: 1). so that we do not give the appearance of rewriting history can we review each piece with an eye to what contributions the individual made that enhanced the overall good of the community. For example, despite Castleman's service in the confederacy did he demonstrate a shift in beliefs by serving the US Army later as well as improve Louisville overall. If you can answer yes, then maybe those people that are memorialized can remain because they publicly redeemed themselves in the direction of good. If you cannot answer yes, then maybe such statues should be relegated to a warehouse or a place where they are reviewed in context of their history (confederate museum, etc.). 2). Public art symbolizes what a place believes at the time. It's important to do the review, but it really is the surface of an underlying belief system and does not go far enough to change the fundamental reasons public art is being debated in the first place. 3). As part of the review, instead of removing can we look at including to give a more complete and accurate look at history. Where are the statues of famous women? Louisville was in and around the Underground Railroad, where is Harriet Tubman or other key figures in that effort? Can we look at how to include memorials to all people and how they enhanced the US or the state or the city? 4). How statues are depicted can be better explained in the accompanying plaques--explain the rationale more completely, both good and bad, so that future generations understand the historical context and the reasoning behind the memorial at the time it was put in place. Create a living time capsule that explains the time.

40204: Re the statue at the entrance to Cherokee Park: John Castleman is not in any uniform. He was a man that lived around this area. He did fight in the Civil War, but so did many men of his time. The statue has nothing to do with the Civil War nor segregation. I checked on Ancestry.com- newspaper section. According to the newspaper reports Castleman was quite a contributor to Louisville, especially this area. I have lived "near" the statue for over 50 years. It is a landmark, signature piece. Beautiful horse with an interesting period costume on the rider. We must be careful about removing all signs of beauty and our past. We cannot let thoughtless vandals direct our lives. Perhaps, as many have suggested, an additional plaque stating more clearly who Castleman was would add to the value of the statue. Which cost \$15,000.00 in 1913!!! I am 100% opposed to removing the statue.

40205: Any and all public art that implies racism/white supremacy either implicitly or explicitly should go. This is to include the Castleman Statue on Cherokee in the Highlands. To the argument that it should stay to teach history, I say, there is a difference between teaching history and glorifying historical figures. There are better concepts that could be immortalized in

this prominent public space. What we need is a better tomorrow and we need public art that inspires that. What will be history is what we do today. Regardless of any pardon the president gave Castleman, regardless that this man helped provide parks and tennis courts to white people he was still a racist/white supremacist. It is for sure privilege that white people living in the Highlands are not and have never been affected directly by such evil acts as the kind Castleman put forth and therefore have never really thought about it before. It's time we not only think about this but act in the most responsible way. Take it down. The statue of George Prentice outside the downtown Louisville library should also come down. His own paper during his lifetime called him a bigot. He was pro-slavery, anti-Catholic and anti-immigrant. He helped incite the Bloody Monday riot of 1855. Take it down.

40205: I think that specific CSA memorial monuments should be moved to museums in order to preserve history, but at the same time, not draw the public passerby into an offensive or uncomfortable position. However, I think that moving non CSA specific monuments, like Castleman, require a bit more consideration and debate. While I agree that those with a severe history of racial oppression should be moved, we must be careful not to get to the point where we are removing anything and everything with a slight tie to slavery, like historical homes with slave walls, or something of that sort. As long as we take the time to discuss as a community both sides of the coin before making any decisions, I believe the right choice would be made.

40205: People can interpret things many ways, it will be very difficult to determine how people will interpret things and in any attempt pendulum can swing too far, one way or another. I strongly support the elimination of clear and overt signs and symbols of the confederacy (flags, statues commemorating confederate Soldiers, paintings of Soldiers in confederate uniforms; streets, parks, and buildings named after confederate generals; school mascots like the Atherton rebels, and confederate flags on gravestones in Cave Hill cemetery on Memorial/Veterans day etc.). Where I believe we may go too far are is the elimination of the depictions of Louisvillians who may have been on the wrong side of morality during the war but were later pardoned. This may provide an opportunity to demonstrate and acknowledge the necessary reconciliation that took place after the civil war. I do not interpret the Castleman statue as honoring bigotry, racism and/or slavery. Just like a lot of people who fought for the confederacy in the civil war, and in an act of reconciliation by the government of the United States, he was pardoned. As a retired Soldier and combat veteran myself, I know that nations must be able to reconcile with their enemies, otherwise we will end up in a perpetual state of war as those defeated have no recourse but to continue fighting. Unfortunately some people have branded this as a confederate statue, right or wrong, and it will continue to be a flashpoint. This is why the clarity you, the Commission on Public Art, can provide on what is and is not considered as art honoring bigotry, racism and/or slavery will be useful, maybe not satisfying to all, but useful as a start point (see above list of overt signs of the confederacy). Racism, fascism, Nazism, and hate must once again be fought and defeated and I'm happy to be on the front lines but when's it's over, we must find a way to reconcile, otherwise it's not over. Elimination of those who we reconciled with is no way to do it.

40204: The monument commemorating John Castleman in the heart of Cherokee Triangle is historical and stirs feelings of pride in our neighborhood's history. But although he did some good, the fact is that Castleman was far from being a great man. Besides his Confederate past,

he was disturbed that African Americans were playing tennis in the parks, and pushed for segregation. Castleman was motivated mainly by self interest in his public service. His entire involvement with the park commission was trying to make money off his land, according to local historian Eric Burnette. He also was opposed to the hiring of Frederick Law Olmstead to design our great parks. I asked a black friend to take a look at the monument and tell me what he felt. I almost fell over when he said "First thing that comes to mind, he said, is an old rich white man on his high horse". That really hit me, because what he was saying is that the statute is an emblem of white superiority and white privilege. It's time to evaluate whether the future of our Highlands neighborhoods should embrace such symbols. What kind of neighborhood do we want to be for the 21st century? One that embraces a certain class of people, or that which welcomes diversity and all people of color from all walks of life? The ugliness of white supremacists demonstrations in Charlottesville is a clarion call to all neighborhoods and locales to take down symbols of our dark pasts. I call on our city to act to put this past behind us. Taking Castleman off his high horse is a start.

40206: Public art should include all of citizens, not exclude them by celebrating the subjugation of their ancestors. Historically, statues celebrating the Confederacy or Confederate service were erected during the era of Jim Crow to reinforce to African Americans that while they were not slaves they were second-class citizens. In Louisville John B. Castleman oversaw the segregation of local parks--years before providing a separate-but-(un)equal park for black Louisvillians. Whatever their complex subtexts, the impetus for erecting these monuments was to glorify the lost cause and remind the city that white supremacy was the natural order.

40220: In June I had the great pleasure to visit Berlin, Germany. We had an excellent tour guide, a German native who was the son of a U.S. soldier who had been stationed there in the 1960s. During his time with our group, our guide spoke extensively about the horrors committed by the Nazi regime. He pointed out areas where the Third Reich had built headquarters and had planned the atrocities of the Holocaust. In those areas now stand museums and memorials to the victims of those atrocities. There are no memorials to the Nazis. There are not statues or signs or symbols honoring their bravery or even just their "service." But Berlin, and Germany as a whole, have not forgotten their past. They try to reconcile with it every single day, and to redeem themselves through humble and honest atonement. We should follow their lead. Tear down any and all statues honoring the Confederacy, their soldiers and officers, or their atrocities. Move them to museums if you must, but get them down without further delay. It is time for us to reconcile and atone.

40206: Instead of spending all the money to tear down monuments, why not leave them and erect a substantial plaque stating "This Statue was erected by hateful bigots in the era of Jim Crow. They were wrong then and are wrong now. There is no place in Kentucky where bigotry and hatred is acceptable. We value compassion, not prejudice."

40217: Monuments that celebrate racism, slavery, or imperialist conquest should be removed from our public spaces. It is disingenuous to argue—as the Governor does—that the removal of such monuments would amount to the whitewashing of history. There are numerous terrible moments in history that we learn and teach about, but that are not celebrated through public art. Many commentators have noted the spikes in the installation of such statues during the Jim Crow period and at the height of the civil rights movement. (https://www.splcenter.org/sites/default/files/whoseheritage-timeline150_years_of_iconography.jpg) This tells us something very important about the actual function of these statues in public space in protecting and legitimizing the racist heritage of this country, especially during times of change. Enough. It's past time for them to go.

40242: There is no place for Confederate Monuments in this city or in any other. There are appropriate places for them...Cave Hill, museums, maybe even battlefields. However, in public, they are too easily seen as celebrating the achievements of people trying to maintain slavery. Castleman was a Confederate, was pro-slavery, was at one point exiled from the United States, and actively sought segregation throughout his life. No matter what his achievements were post-Civil War, he was always a racist. Anywhere there are monuments celebrating the Confederacy, there are undoubtedly more appropriate subjects to memorialize. Civil Rights Leaders, Women's Movement Leaders, or any other historical figure or event are more appropriate than Confederate Monuments. Take them all down and replace them.

40205: The Castleman statue needs to go. He was not only a traitor, but also a Jim Crow styled segregationist, and profited by his parks work. Surely there are dozens of better citizens, more worthy of such an honor. Not one additional dime should be spent to allow those who glory in the Lost Cause to continue to fight their battles in the public arena. Again, I repeat, Castleman has to go. Put his statue in a museum, that's great. But he doesn't have the right to colonize our public spaces any longer.

40205: As a constituent of Metro Council District 8 and Louisville Metro, and as someone who has done a lot of research on Louisville's park system, I support removing the Castleman statue and replacing it with one of Andrew Cowan-- the real father of our Olmsted Park system. Castleman was a Confederate officer (which makes him a traitor to our country and a defender of slavery), a Confederate spy, and more importantly he presided over the segregation of the parks amid a climate of rising bigotry and intolerance. Beyond that, his principal interest in serving on the Park Commission was to make money for himself. He is not the kind of person we should celebrate in our public art.

40217: Some people say they want to keep Confederate statues like the Castleman to "remember history," while some seem nostalgic for it as a "neighborhood landmark." Others simply seem to be enchanted by their "beauty." That these statues were erected to promote white supremacy, intimidate POC, and embolden racists at the expense of people's lives is inconsequential to them. Change is hard, I get it. I'm just glad we have the opportunity to voice our opinions here. You know who didn't get to voice their opinions? Slaves. Take these glorified

symbols of oppression down. In time we can replace them with works of art that better reflect the values which so many Louisvillians claim.

40204: Is it in the spirit of a Compassionate city to celebrate someone who fought for the enslavement of others? I think it's time to rid the city of all monuments that celebrate the civil war and its heroes. While many in Louisville didn't realize the Castleman statue was a civil war statue, it is on the historic registry as a civil war monument. That was its intention when it was created. Look at the context of history of the time the statue was erected, these monuments were put into place to reinforce Jim Crow. Now I understand that the corridor where this statue is placed is not a particularly diverse area, and many will say that they (the residents who are white and affluent) are not offended and that they do not see it that way, should we not take into account the rest of the neighborhood, city, and tourists. What message are we sending? Do we want the kind of visitor who will come looking for a civil war monument? Do we want the message the statue celebrates to be the one that the rest of the citizens of Louisville hear? Is it in the spirit of a Compassionate city to celebrate someone who fought for the enslavement of others?

40206: In my opinion, the statue of Mr Castleman should be removed. Mr Castleman fought for the Confederacy in rebellion against the United States and the underlying motivation for that rebellion was the preservation of slavery. My understanding of Mr Castleman's life post-Civil War was after his pardon by President Johnson, he served in the US military, apparently with distinction. He also receives some credit for the development of Louisville's park system. Additionally, Mr Castleman founded the National Saddlebred Horse Association. So certainly he should receive credit for his contributions, but does this mean his statue should remain in place? I recently read an article that described how many Confederate monuments were placed outside of court houses. The article's author asked, how could minorities, historically African-Americans, expect justice when they have to walk by a monument to their enslavement and subjugation? The statue of Mr Castleman presents him in civilian clothing, not military uniform, so is this a tribute to the man post-Civil War and his contributions to Louisville? The Courier-Journal cites the occasion after the park's establishment of African-Americans playing tennis and Mr Castleman responding that equal (which of course it never has been) and separate facilities should be provided to them. To me, this indicates that Mr Castleman was a segregationist and perhaps what we would call today, a white supremacist. Therefore, in the same way that Confederate monuments in front of court houses call into question the justice people of certain categories may receive, allowing Mr Castleman's statue to remain at an entrance to the park suggests not all are welcome into this public space. It is for these reasons that I support the immediate removal of the Castleman monument.

40204: I live on Cherokee Road and I believe that residents of the Cherokee Triangle neighborhood should be the ones to vote on what should happen to the Castleman Statue. I would like to hear a statement from the Mayor's office about whether or not his contribution to the Louisville Parks is accurate or if Castleman pursued segregation of the parks. It is in my opinion that no one ever stopped to think about who the statue was or what it represented until all of these stories came out so what does it matter now?

40218: I would review the George Prentice monument by the Main Public Library. He was supposedly for slavery, anti-Catholic and anti-immigrant. His writings probably started the Bloody Monday incident of 1855.

40204: I hope the Commission focuses on historical context and does not respond to emotions of the present. Yes, some public art, if fairly judged as "bigotry, racism, and/or slavery" should be removed and replaced. But we need a calm, thoughtful, process over some period of time, as much of the cry for action is related to frustration and disappointment in very recent events. I see myself as a progressive and live in one of the most progressive neighborhoods in Louisville. The Castleman statue is a particular challenge. Anything with "confederate" in it raises the slavery emotion. But Castleman redeemed himself and served in the US Army. In my opinion, the plaque should be changed to emphasize WHY that statute is up - not for Civil War service, but for local civic leadership, especially the parks system. If John Castleman was in Confederate uniform and/or carried military weapons or flag then I too would support its removal. But if the non-military Castleman should come down, so should the honorific naming of many of our streets, buildings, and counties. Those men lived real lives in an era that also did not meet the standards of today's culture. We hold Abraham Lincoln himself as a critical figure in racial equality, and his Memorial is the site for so many expressions of this good. It too should come down, for in his own words he stated clearly that blacks should not be allowed to vote, serve on a jury, or hold office. Those words make me sick today, but I he wouldn't say them today. Neither would Castleman necessarily act or say today what he did 150 years ago. So I hope you balance the true insult some public art provokes for our fellow citizens with the tyranny of the present.

40205: I feel there is no black or white aspect on the Public Art in and on Louisville land, it is a grey area that is a very slippery slope. My thoughts and feelings of the "celebration" of a statue or monument goes far beyond an isolated period of an individual's life, but that person's life as a whole. I feel saddened John B Castleman sided with the CSA during the Civil War, but we should not forget the fact he fought during the Spanish-American War and served the USA after the conclusion of the Civil War. While he may not have been as impactful as Andrew Cowan for the Olmsted Parks in Louisville, I do feel he had a very significant role in forming Louisville's parks as we enjoy them today. During the time of segregation he was instrumental in the

formation of beautiful Chickasaw Park. Castleman founded the ASHA in 1891, an organization that still continues to this day and brings much attention to the Commonwealth. I do feel the measure of the man's life is larger than that period of time between 1861 to 1865. If we remove a statue of a man in civilian clothing and a plaque talking about his CSA service, then we need to change the names of the parks in this city. We would need to remove the statues of Daniel Boone (a major contributor to this area), and George D Prentice (a man that seems to have less impact on this city than any other monument in the city) due to their history. I do not think there is a definitive right or wrong answer to this scenario, but I do believe the person as a whole has to be considered when weighing the option of removing monuments that families (along with public funds) have erected and other citizens have restored, looked after and cared for, for over 100 years. These were different times, we cannot change this or relate to in today's times.

40203: I believe that it would greatly benefit our city and our community by removing all public works honoring those that supported the confederacy, fought for segregation, and/or made hateful, demeaning remarks about women and people of color. These are not people that deserve to be honored publicly in our great diverse city.

40206: I am not a person of color, but I'm very concerned about what art we use to decorate our city. Our monuments and our murals tell a story of who we are, and my Louisville doesn't glorify oppression. This is more than just someone being offended about a statue. This is about whether we are ready to acknowledge the sins of our father or continue to lie to ourselves in an effort to save our pride. We, as people of privilege who have the ability to make change, owe it to our brothers and sisters in Louisville to make the right decision and stop tolerating ignorance. This is a moment where we can show leadership in racial relations. Let's replace art with hope, and move towards a future together, regardless of race.

XXXXX: Please remove any Confederate statues. We should not honor these traitors in defense of slavery. These items are better left to museums where they can be properly contextualized. Let's replace Confederate statues with works by contemporary artists. I want to see artworks that move people in the public square, not artworks that remind people of oppression.

40205: Moving the Castleman statue would be the political equivalent of what the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer once described as cheap grace. It would be an easy, costless way to feel good about ourselves by diminishing our collective memory of a man who committed the cardinal sin of failing to live by twenty-first century values. If we removed the statues of every president who did something to promote and perpetuate slavery or racial segregation, how many would be left? Will American society really be more enlightened if we forget all these people who came before us?

40205: Times change when people grow. Confederate statues should not be public memorials on public property. To remain is to not only condone the values of the Confederacy, but to display them for praise. They are beautiful works of art and shouldn't be destroyed but rather moved to appropriate private locations or cemeteries for soldiers. No large collection to encourage their being sites of celebration by hate groups. Most large cemeteries are locked at night to protect them the sites and would discourage the most hate-filled gatherings by negative groups, preserves art and history, but doesn't support implied values associated with them. A little history, many of these were erected during the 'Jim Crow' period to remind ex-slaves of 'their place' as well as well as to glorify the defeated rebels. Please consider moving them, then later the spot can be used for art representing shared American values. Remember, a wronged and important part of our population had no voice when these were erected.

40203: I have always appreciated that Louisville owns its history, good and bad, with its historical markers indicating significant happenings of the past. However that is different than honoring people and ideas with statues in public spaces. I was relieved when the confederate soldier memorial came down at U of L because it was not welcoming to or representative of so many of our students and residents. I hope the public art review will consider what these statues say about us, not just the city we were but the city we want to be going forward, and remove the statues that honor and celebrate people whose primary accomplishments were oppressive and bigoted.

40217: We should not use public spaces to honor those who dedicated their lives to defend racist systems like slavery and segregation. It's true that the statues are historically significant, but those types of works are more appropriate in museums.

40208: The Castleman statue in the Cherokee Triangle should be removed. The two reasons to support the monument are 1) that he served the Union post-Civil War after serving the Confederacy, which points to a change of heart, and 2) that he is largely responsible for the establishment of the Olmsted parks system. Concerning the first, a man who supported the Confederacy against the Union did not merit a monument. While his motivation remains a matter of conjecture, it seems that his "conversion" was very much to his own benefit once the contest was decided in favor of the Union. As for the second reason, the appropriateness of the monument's proximity to Cherokee Park, Eric Burnette points out that he was more entrepreneur than benefactor with regard to the Louisville park system ("Thank Andrew Cowan for Louisville Parks, not Castleman," Courier-Journal: May 26, 2017 online): "If Castleman had his way, Olmsted never would have been hired and Cherokee Park would be about the same size and location as Tyler Park... In fact, Tyler Park – designed largely by John C. Olmsted – is one of Castleman's only significant park legacies. Half of it was built on land he sold to his own Park Commission at a markup." Burnette also points out that Castleman was responsible first for the segregation of Louisville's public park tennis courts and ultimately of its parks. Castleman wrote, "The same right that induces our liberal provision for their ["our negro fellow citizens"] separate education should impel us to provide for them separate recreation grounds." The monument to George D. Prentice that stands before the York St. entrance to the Louisville Free Public Library also should be

removed. Prentice, editor of the Louisville Journal and supporter of the Know-Nothing Party, wrote pro-slavery, anti-Catholic and anti-immigrant editorials that inflamed public sentiment to the point that he can be considered a contributor to the riots on the day known as "Bloody Monday," August 6, 1855, in which Irish and German immigrants were attacked, wounded and killed and their property destroyed. It is ironic that only a handful of yards away on S. 4th St. stands the statue of Abraham Lincoln. Fittingly, Lincoln's back is to Prentice.

40206: Public art needs to honor love, compassion, & be sensitive to many cultural differences...art honoring bigotry, racism and/or slavery is divisive, hurtful, and cruel. We want to be an inclusive city with sensitivity towards many different cultures & religions & RESPECTFUL of the differences.

40299: Confederate monuments, flags and memorabilia have no place in public places anywhere in the United States that is local, state or federally funded. These items glorify traitors to the United States of America. They were put up mostly in the Jim Crow era as a backlash to the freedom of slaves in America and are as offensive to African Americans as statues of Hitler and his Nazis are to survivors and descendants of survivors of the Holocaust. Are there statues of Hitler and his cronies in Germany? Then why do we have statues and flags honoring the traitors to the United States of America in this country who fought to perpetuate the American Holocaust? Take them ALL down and re-purpose the materials they were made of. NOW!

40204: Many of you have the wrong idea about why the Castleman statue was placed in the roundabout at Cherokee Road and Cherokee Parkway. It was not to honor a Civil War major – notice the figure is not in uniform. It was to honor the man (and his beloved horse, American Saddle Bred Carolina) who established the Board of Parks Commissioners and served as its president for many years. He is credited with securing the property for Cherokee Park and oversaw its development. He rode Carolina through the park almost every day. He also founded the American Saddle Breeders Association and was its president for 28 years. The statue was intended to show Castleman on Carolina overlooking the entrance to the park he loved, Cherokee Park. Change the marker to reflect the purpose of the statue. Do not remove the statue. As for the issue that he was a racist and segregationist, we are not excusing him. But we remember that many people of that era (and sadly even today) were of the same ilk; and even so, he made it possible for Blacks to gather in the parks without retribution from the whites who did not want them in "their" parks. As an officer in the U.S. Army when Southerners disputed having African Americans in their ranks, General Castleman is quoted as saying, "I unhesitatingly say that I will at any time salute an officer, superior or inferior, who salutes me, without regard to the color of his skin. The regulations and laws, and the fundamentals of courtesy and discipline, upon which these regulations and laws are based, prescribe this. It is no time to stand against them. I want to urge every soldier to be a soldier in the full sense of the term. We are at war, and soldiers are under the rules of the American army. We are all one under the flag. We salute the rank, not the individual." [Quote from Albert Lea Evening Tribune]

40205: By no sane standard can the Castleman statue "be interpreted to be honoring bigotry, racism, and/or slavery". It is a fine work which suits its setting, and I hope it will be left in situ. Around the end of Reconstruction in later 1800s and early 1900s, Jim Crow laws were passed to codify racial segregation, making discrimination the "law of the land". Statues and monuments celebrating the Civil War including past and current leaders, erected during this time period, should receive automatic consideration for removal. Having established a first pass list, other mitigating

factors may be considered, such as the person's contribution to society in general. Simply saying this person supported segregation may not be reason enough since it was generally supported by voters (which did not then include blacks). Some should probably be melted down, as evil. Others might find a place in museums, cemeteries or private hands.

40272: Yes history is history, but have large reminder of bad history is a constant reminder of things. Just because some people don't know the meaning and history behind something's doesn't make it right just make it subtle. You wouldn't have a statue of a slave owner wiping a slave, but just because you take the slave away and just a statue of a slave owner didn't change anything the effect it just toned it down. People just see a statue of a man an just put good things they did on sign, just to openly offend ppl. But if you are willing to erect a sculpture an put slave owner, bigot, or anything else and have it put up in the city. Don't hide the truth in order to not openly offend, the sculpture, paintings, etc., are openly offensive. Would you put a sculpture or painting that represents KY, of a child molester, that did many good things for the city? Would you debut on well we still want him remembered for all the good things he did so we will put his statue up in the capital an just not put the bad things on sign. History is not forgotten, just don't need a 20ft. Or 12x20 reminder of something's.

40206: Louisvillians know something now that can't be unknown. We can continue the debate, but the reality is that very few knew the name or history of the rider on the beautiful horse statue in Cherokee Triangle until recently. We know now, all of us know that the rider is John B. Castleman, a confederate officer who fought to uphold slavery and later worked to segregate Louisville's park system. His statue is on the National Registry of Confederate Monuments where it is celebrated as a symbol of a racist history. We can no longer sit silent while this racist history and legacy is honored in our public spaces. The mayor of Lexington, Kentucky, is taking action to remove two Confederate-era monuments from his city's former courthouse. We must demand that Mayor Fisher do the same for our community and take the Castleman statue down. Some say, let these statues stand so we can teach our children a better way, but statues like these, like the one in Charlottesville, like those throughout our State and throughout the South, were never meant to teach our children the evil realities of the civil war and of slavery, they were erected to pay homage, to revere the history and the ongoing legacy of white supremacy and to keep it in place. It is why they are becoming rallying points for white nationalists and Neo-Nazi's who are working to uphold those same white supremacist values of the confederacy. This atmosphere which celebrates symbols of slavery, also condones the killing of Black people, the deportation of our immigrant people, the attacks on Muslim people, and anti-semitism. This is not just about a statue. This is about institutionalized racism in our schools, our housing policies, our criminal justice system and more. We can't un-know, what we now know. So, Mayor Fisher and the Public Arts Commission, show some compassion and Take it Down!

40205: As a Highlands resident, I am greatly disturbed that the statue I drive by on a near daily basis was erected to honor someone who fought against our country, for the preservation of slavery, and later championed segregation of our parks. There are so many other wonderful ways that we could use that space. Please remove the Castleman statue, and involve citizens of the neighborhood on

what should be erected in its stead. I will judge my councilman and mayor on the results of this decision.

40206: I think it is time to remove art that symbolizes an era of oppression, and serves as a negative reminder that we still have a long way to go as far as justice and equality. I could see these pieces being in a museum, with an explanation of the history and oppressive acts of the people portrayed, but not in public serving as a reminder of a grim and tragic period of our history, and a glorification of inequality.

40205: Commissioners , The Castleman statue, and any other statue representing historical figures who fought for slavery and the separation of the South from the United States, should be removed from public and uncommented space. If these statues are to remain, they must contain prominent information about the cause that he or she fought for, and the direct consequences of their actions, including Jim Crow laws, segregation, racial violence, and active and continuing discrimination based upon their chosen policies and beliefs. It is ahistorical to claim that statues of civil war "heroes" were originally intended to honor fighting for their home, when the majority of these statues were put up as a direct consequence of integration the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s. What is intended to oppress must be removed or explained. Though this statue was erected in 1913, the wikipedia page puts it succinctly - "The monument was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 17, 1997, as part of the Civil War Monuments of Kentucky MPS." We should not honor a man who fought for segregation, for succession, and for slavery. No matter how nice a man he may have been to know to the white and wealthy of Louisville past.