

Shirley Chisholm Welcome Center

Community Visioning Presentation



Shirley Chisholm Welcome Center Community Visioning



"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair." - Shirley Chisholm

Shirley Chisholm is a Brooklyn hero. Born in Bedford-Stuyvesant and of Guyanese and Barbadian descent, she was the first African-American woman in Congress (1968) and the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for president of the United States from one of the two major political parties (1972).



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Through funding from the New York City Council, led by Council Speaker Adrienne Adams and Council Members Shahana Hanif, Crystal Hudson and Rita Joseph, and former Majority Leader and current Cultural Affairs Commissioner Laurie Cumbo, Prospect Park Alliance, the non-profit that operates the park in partnership with the City, is transforming a disused building at the Parkside and Ocean entrance into a welcome center to complement the new monument to Shirley Chisholm coming to this entrance to the park.



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The \$6.75 million project will transform this disused building, originally home to a restroom, to open the building up to the street, create a public plaza, upgrade and potentially expand the building to provide restroom amenities, and will also include exhibit panels that celebrate the life and legacy of Brooklyn trailblazer Shirley Chisholm.



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The Welcome Center will complement the restoration of the Parkside and Ocean Avenue Entrance, which will be home to a new monument to Shirley Chisholm that is being created through the Department of Cultural Affairs She Built initiative. The monument, designed by artists Amanda Williams and Olalekan Jeyifous, rises 32 feet high, and features a bust of Chisholm intersected by a rendering of the Capitol Building, and incorporates decorative metalwork representing flora found in Brooklyn and her native Barbados.



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The Welcome Center is surrounded by cultural destinations, including the Drummer's Grove, which provides a Sunday drumming circle and marketplace, as well as a popular gathering spaces, including a barbecue and picnicking area.



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Precedents: Covered Outdoor Space

The Welcome Center could include an extension that provides covered outdoor space for gatherings, performances and/or exhibit panels.



Brochstein Pavilion, Thomas Phifer and Partners



The Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, BCJ



Gov. Mario Cuomo (Tappan Zee) Bridge Welcome Center, Wilkinson Eyre Architects



Old Market Square Stage, 5468796 Architecture



Serpentine Pavilion, Francis Kéré



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Precedents: Modern Extensions to Historic Buildings

The Welcome Center could include a modern extension to the historic building to house restroom facilities or other needs.



Union Square Restroom, Architecture Research Office



McCarren Park House, Ktisma Studio



Governors Island Welcome Center, Office III



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Precedents: Art + Visitor Information Panels

The Welcome Center could include panels or other elements to display art and general visitor information.



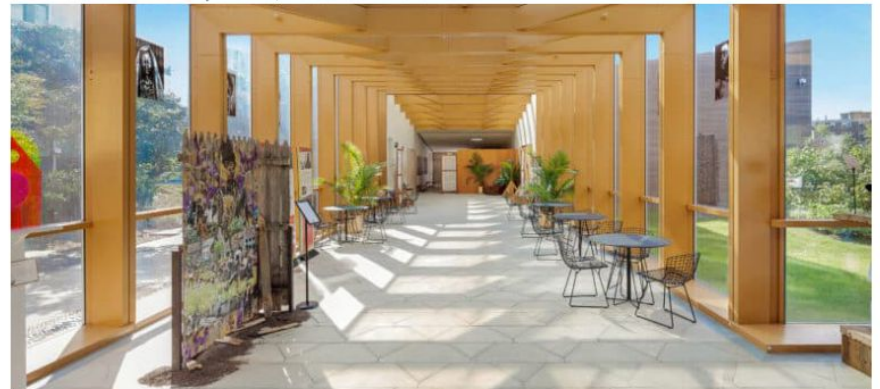
DOT Art Display, Architecture Research Office



UAE Pavilion Milan Expo 2015, Foster & Partners



African Burial Ground Nat'l Monument, Rodney Leon & Nicole Hollant Denis



Weeksville Heritage Center, Caples Jefferson Architects

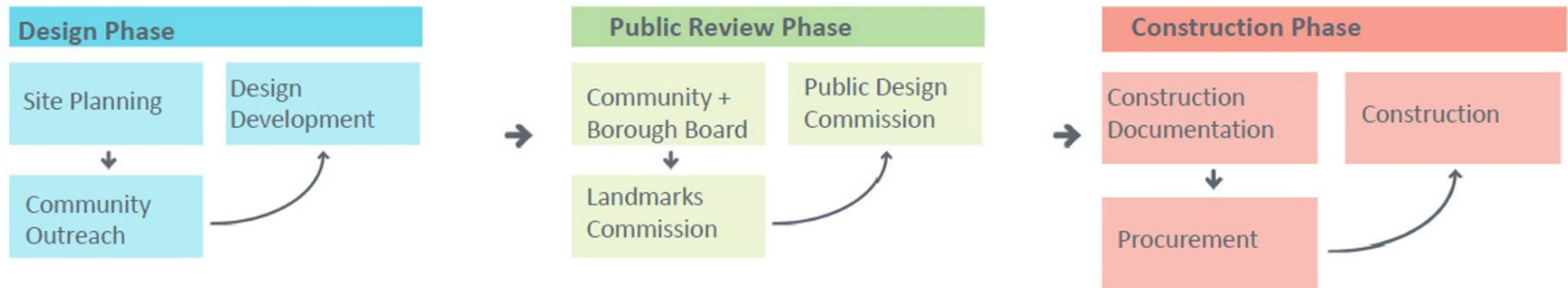


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Next Steps

The following in the process for creating the center and the current timeline. We are in the site planning and community outreach phase of the project.

Process:



Timeline:

2024

Site Planning & Analysis
Community Outreach
Public Review
Design Development

2025

Design Development
Construction Documentation

2026

Procurement
Construction Begins

2027

Construction Concludes



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Share your feedback!

Please share your ideas and feedback on the Shirley Chisholm Welcome Center as we kick off the design process through this simple feedback form, and please spread the word:

<https://forms.gle/Jcte2RR9xpvUbmxxv5>

Questions?

Contact us at community@prospectpark.org.