FULL CIRCLE

A VISION FOR 2015: TRANSFORM, REJUVENATE, AND CONNECT

1. Connect the city to the park, walk and bike trails, and the points to the river.

GROW AND EXTEND

2. Continue to land use policies and develop partnerships and programs.

2015 AND BEYOND: EXPAND THE CIRCLE, EMBRACE THE REGION

3. Expand river restoration and urban connections. Create a regional-scale vision for greenways.

WEISS/MANFREDI TEAM
A NEW PUBLIC LANDSCAPE

ICONS, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND HISTORIES OF CULTURE, ECOLOGY, AND TRANSPORTATION ARE WOVEN TOGETHER TO FORM A COMPPELLING VISION FOR THE FUTURE

A DISCONNECTED LANDMARK

Visible to miles, the Gateway Arch is isolated, sedated, and restrained around the world for its engineering and sculptural elegance. Like the pyramids at Giza and the Washington Monument, the Arch is timeless, engaging, and iconic. This compelling form of art is gathering momentum, presence, process, and resonance, thus such as the setting.

The Gateway Arch is currently isolated, separated from the city and river by the Interstate (Interstates, highways, bridges, and rail lines). Transportation in the region has facilitated the flow of commerce and industry, spreading cultural patterns. Over time has interrupted the region's ecology and formed urban centers. The intersections of these urban centers were linked to create the existing towns. The Native American mound site at Mount Eden was destroyed and used as a modern-day highway.

The Garden District and surrounding neighborhoods have long since been developed, with parks, homes, and communities were ideal spots for new developments. Full Circle reimagines the site, reconfiguring the infrastructure to be resilient and self-sustaining.

CONNECT, ENHANCE, AND EXTEND

Full Circle reimagines the current identity for the Arch, the city of St. Louis, and the region. By connection, the region's diverse cultural and historical attractions are now accessible to the riverfront and other areas.

CREATE A LONG TERM VISION

Renewing the Gateway Arch reimagines the story of a national jewel. How does a memorial help to understand who we are today by revisiting a story of our past? How is our past the beginning of a national narrative that defines our future? When St. Louis asked three questions with the St. Louis Regionalism team: What is the story we want to tell? What is our core narrative? And what is our message?

Full Circle connects the region to the park and the river, reimagining the Mississippi River as an artery. The proposed site of St. Louis is extended over the river to connect the city to the park. Ecological improvements on the Memorial Grounds will promote the park's natural beauty and reconnect the site to its surroundings. The expanded vision will act as a catalyst to bridge history and community, culture and ecology, integrating the site into new larger cultural networks.

Ecology

Trade/Transport

Cultural/Urban Life

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FULL CIRCLE: A RENEWED INTERNATIONAL ICON

THE TERRITORY OF THE MISSISSIPPI AND ITS RIVERBANKS COMPARE A VAST AND COMPLEX SET OF HISTORIES, ECLOGIES, AND CULTURAL TERRITORIES.

THE ARCH AND THE MEMORIAL GROUNDS CELEBRATE AN IMPORTANT NATIONAL HISTORY AND FORM AN ICON KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. PHYSICAL SEPARATIONS HAVE DISCONNECTED THIS ICON FROM CITY AND RIVER AND LIMTED THE VIBRANCY OF THIS EXTRAORDINARY SETTING.

FULL CIRCLE TIES TOGETHER THE TAPESTRY OF THE PAST AND PRESENTS A NEW REGENERATIVE VISION FOR THE FUTURE.
LINKED LANDMARKS
AN UNFOLDING SERIES OF LANDSCAPES CONNECT CITY AND PARK, LINKING VIEWS BETWEEN THE MUSEUM, COURTHOUSE, AND RIVER

MUSEUM MEZZANINE
A new green platform connects to the park and the point to the river.

Strategic interventions create family-friendly opportunities while preserving the character of the Gateway Arch. The Museum of Western Expansion on the east side and the Gateway Arch Visitor Center on the west side are connected through a series of plazas that lead to spacious, public green spaces.

KIEFER PLAZA
A new overlook area overlooking the Missouri River and creates a visual link through the Gateway to the Old Courthouse.

RIVER OVERLOOK
A new window is inserted into the observatory to provide stunning views of the Missouri River from inside the museum.

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A NEW RECIPROCITY BETWEEN PUBLIC LIFE AND REGENERATIVE ECologies RENEWS THE MEMORIAL GROUNDS AND TRANSFORMS THE EAST BANK INTO A VIBRANT NEW PARK

On the west bank, a network of wetlands and flooded meadows creates a vivid reminder of the rich history of this part of the floodplain. A series of interconnected wetlands and meadows, from the floodplain to the riverbanks, offer opportunities for native wildlife and provide habitat for a diverse array of plant and animal species. These wetlands also help to regulate water flow and improve water quality in the river.

MEMORIAL GROUNDS: A visionary network of pedestrian and cycle paths links the memorial spaces to the surrounding parkland, creating a seamless connection between the past and the present. The paths are designed to accommodate a range of users, from joggers and cyclists to wheelchair users and strollers, ensuring accessibility for all.

A new network of waterways, wetlands, and floodplains creates a vibrant, dynamic landscape that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing. The new design integrates traditional elements of the site, such as the Gateway Arch and the Mississippi River, with modern, sustainable practices, creating a space that is both a tribute to the past and a model for the future.

WEISS/MANFREDI TEAM
NEW LANDMARK TERRITORIES

CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL DESTINATIONS ARE CONNECTED BY THE MEANDERING LOOPS OF PROMENADES, TRAILS, AND BIKEWAYS

MISSISSIPPI RIVER CULTURAL AND ECOLOGICAL CENTER

An educational center embedded within a dynamic landscape that connects visitors to the rich ecological experiences, and provides dramatic views back to the Gateway Arch.

Educational and recreational opportunities are linked by a meandering loop trail.

In full view of the city of St. Louis, the Gateway Arch, and across the river to the new Mississippi Cultural and Ecological Center, this loop trail is the perfect place to appreciate the unique geography of the Mississippi region. A film about the river’s history and potential to become an important global model for understanding and managing natural systems. New opportunities include the Cahokia Mounds, create new ecologies, and align with areas of new development. The programs of the center continue into the existing landscape, where cultural learning and research environments connect the Missouri side of the park.

Features: Trailblazing education and environmental education of visitors and cultural trails. The trail winds through the park to an overlook area where the overlook and pedestrian walking area become a new part of the park experience. From south to north, the pedestrian path passes overpass becomes a new area for ecological recreation, including a new park area, a new water treatment plant, and a new urban river. The Mississippi River provides new opportunities for water sports, and artistic studies in the landscape. This new park area offers views of the dynamic southern gateway to the Gateway Arch.

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NATURAL ASPHALT HEATHER

A natural asphalt heater becomes a cultural gateway and visitor's southern entry to the park.

CHOUTEAUS CROSSING

The St. Louis Street overpass becomes a gateway for active recreation and multi-level paths wave between columns and new pavilions.
A NEW RIVER’S EDGE

BRIDGING NEW TOPOGRAPHIES ACTIVATES THE RIVER’S EDGE, CELEBRATES THE POWER OF THE MISSISSIPPI, AND CREATES NEW PUBLIC ECLOGIES

A new riverfront landscape creates a dramatic vantage point of the powerful Mississippi River.

New topography and architecture transform the site into a vibrant public space.

Urban Bluffs: The bank of the Mississippi River rises dramatically, creating a visually striking and engaging environment.

Poplar Street Bridge: Pedestrians and cyclists cross over the river along a new pedestrian and cycle path.

Perry Landau: An active bridge for a cross-river ferry links the city with the riverfront, offering an unobstructed view of the river.
A NATIONAL PARK OF THE MISSISSIPPI

LEVERAGE A TAPESTRY OF HISTORY, ART, AND ECOLOGY TO BRING INTO FOCUS THE POWER OF PLACE

ENHANCE THE ICONIC GATEWAY ARCH AND THE JEFFERSON NATIONAL EXPANSION MEMORIAL

CONNECT THE CITY, THE PARK, AND THE RIVER

BUILD NEW TOPOGRAPHIES TO SUPPORT MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES, CREATE NEW ECOCLOGIES, AND FRAME NEW PERSPECTIVES

WEAVE THE STORY OF NATIONAL EXPANSION WITHIN A WIDER SITE THAT EMBRACES BOTH BANKS OF THE MISSISSIPPI

HARNESS THE BEAUTY AND UNPREDICTABLE POWER OF THE RIVER

CATALYZE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC, ECOCLOGICAL, AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TRANSFORM SITE AND PROGRAM CONSTRAINTS INTO OPPORTUNITIES

CREATE A RESILIENT FRAMEWORK THAT SUPPORTS LONG TERM URBAN, INFRASTRUCTURAL, AND ECOLOGICAL PROGRESS

FULL CIRCLE

LEAD DESIGN: WEISS/MANFREDI
Architectural and Landscape Architects


EPIC New York, Davis Consultants Inc., Linnell, Skidmore, Loewen, Schweikardt Light Projects, Amy Security, Antino, Pentagon, Polina Roseman, Development Partners, Dr. John Kirt, Daniel J. Hinshley, Dr. Robert Chiba, Dr. Fred Pasco, Canes

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