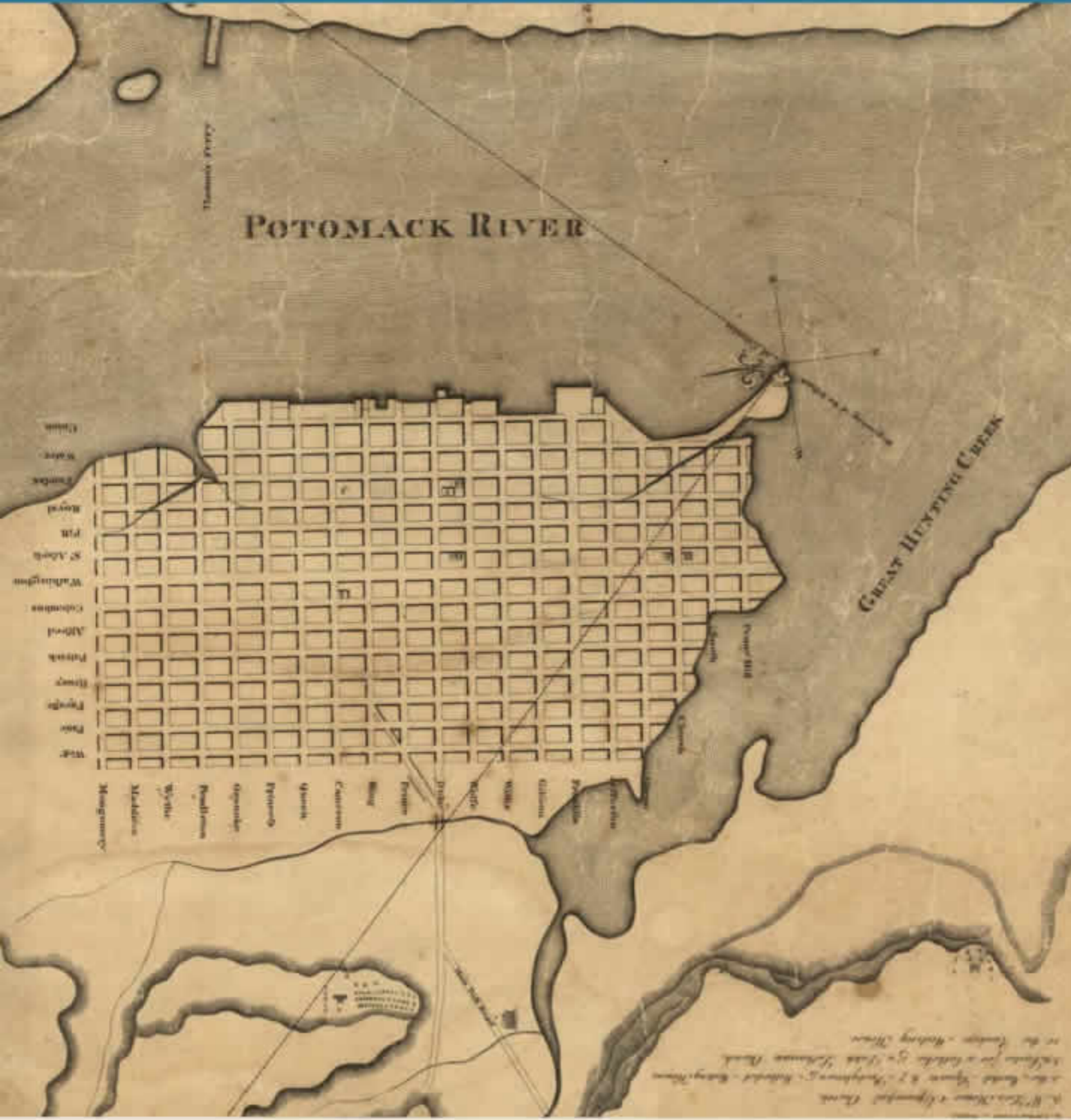


Alexandria, D.C.



Alexandria was established by Virginia's colonial assembly in 1749, over four decades before the U.S. Congress authorized creation of a national capital on the banks of the Potomac River. Once the final site for the Federal city was selected by President George Washington, part of Alexandria was incorporated into the District of Columbia in 1801. To mark the new capital's boundaries, large stones were set in a ten-mile square at one mile intervals by Andrew Ellicott, assisted by men such as African American astronomer Benjamin Banneker.



Benjamin Banneker



Jones Point boundary stone

At first, Alexandrians welcomed the town's inclusion into Washington, D.C., but residents soon became disillusioned. Provisions of the 1791 Act creating the District precluded the construction of any Federal buildings south of the Potomac River. Furthermore, the 1801 District Act disenfranchised the local populace, who could not vote in presidential elections nor have representation in Congress. Discussions about possibly outlawing slavery in the District also provided a strong impetus to retrocede Alexandria, a major slave trading center, to Virginia. In July 1846, the U.S. Congress voted to permit the retrocession upon referendum and, once approved, the land was formally accepted back by the Commonwealth of Virginia a year later.

Boundary Stones

The first and southernmost boundary stone was set at Alexandria's Jones Point, and four more such stones still exist within the city.



↔ Shopping

→ Dining

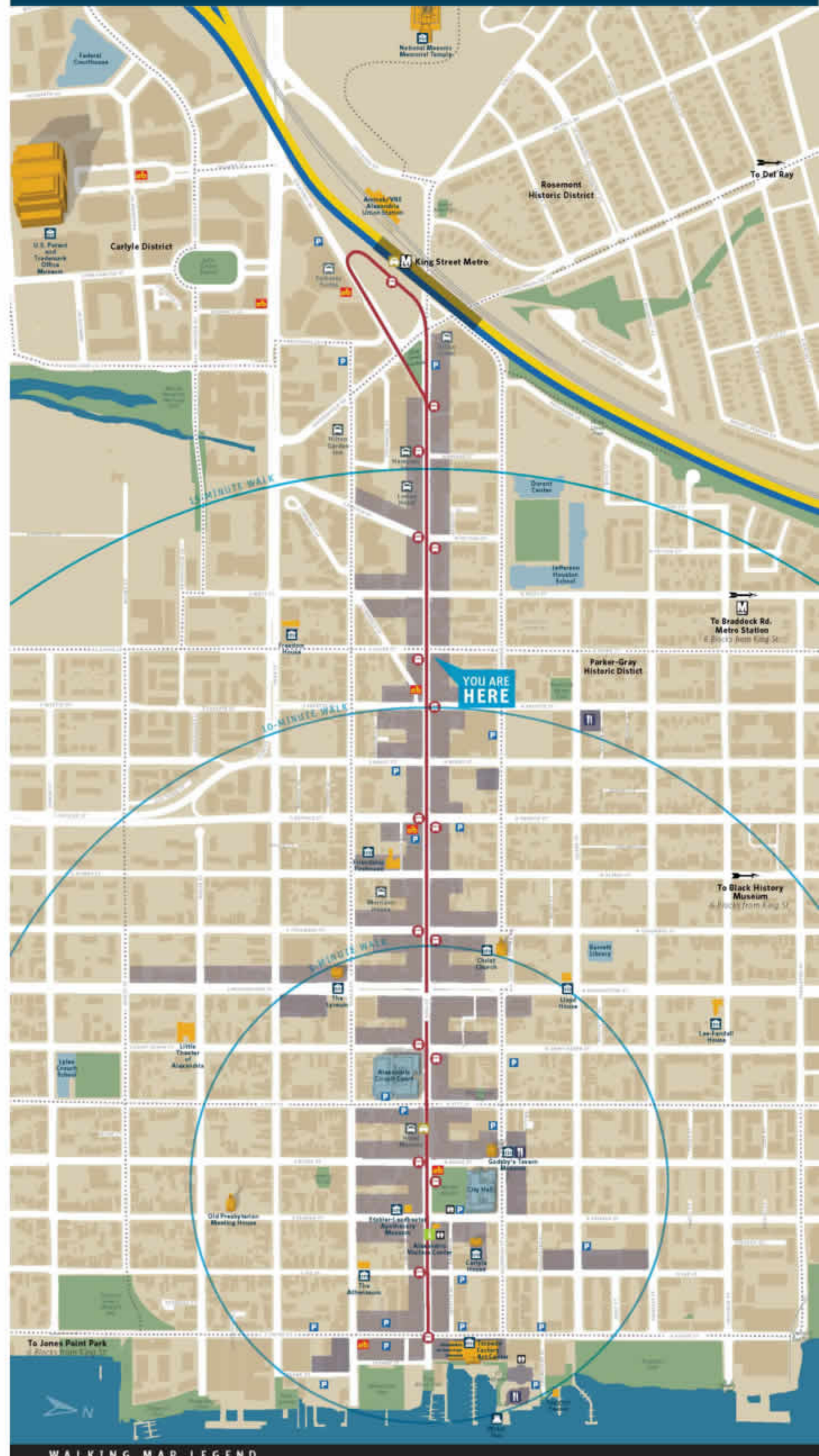
← Freedom House

← African American Heritage Park

← Carlyle District

↪ Waterfront 14 BLOCKS

↑ King Street 4 BLOCKS



WALKING MAP LEGEND

Information	Public Parking	Museum	Shopping & Dining	Park	Public Parks
King Street Trolley Stop	Taxi Stand	Lodging	Bike Route	Attraction	Visitor Attractions
Metro Station	Water Taxi	Capital Bikeshare	5-minute walk (1/4 Mile)	Civic	Civic Destinations