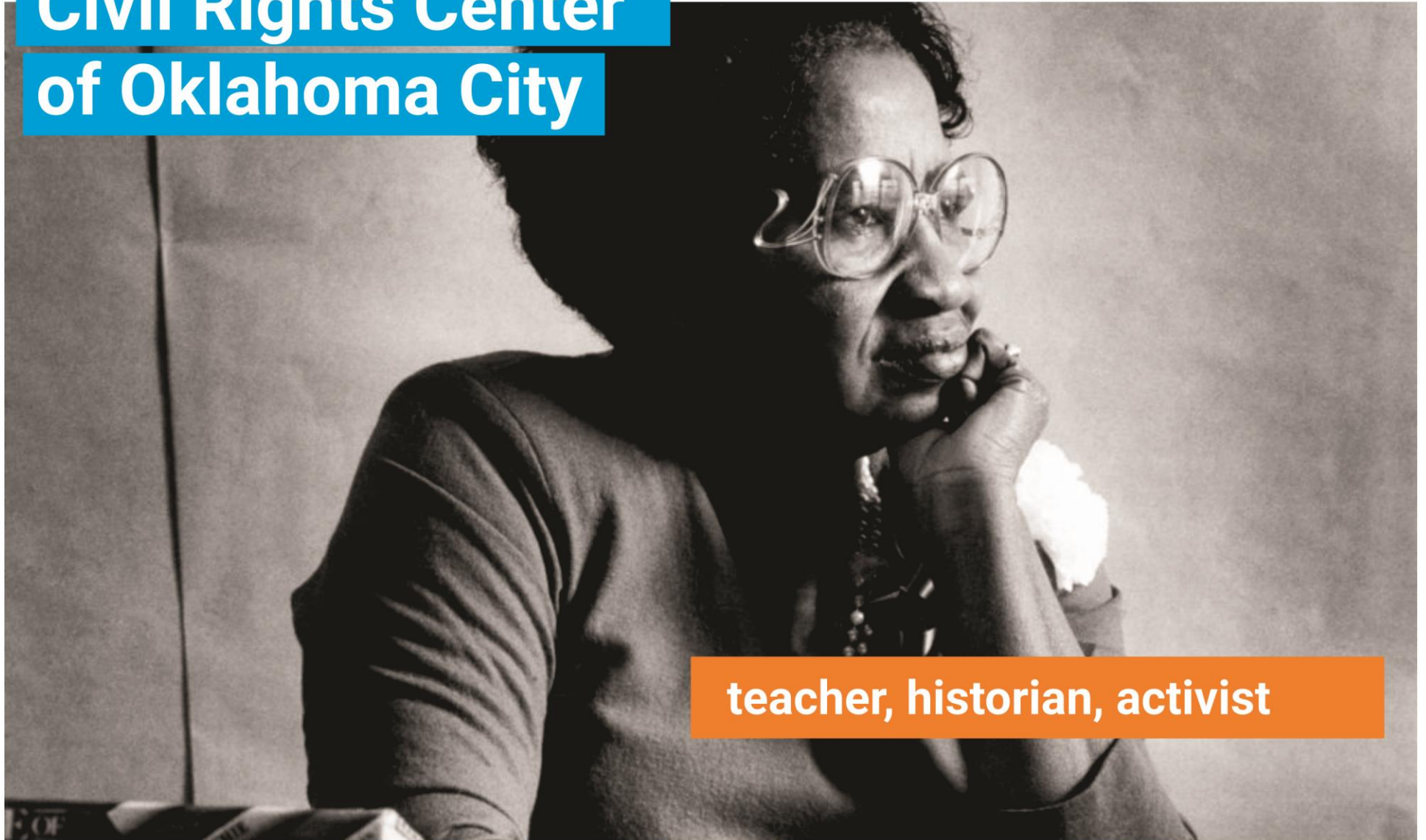


**The Clara Luper
Civil Rights Center
of Oklahoma City**



teacher, historian, activist

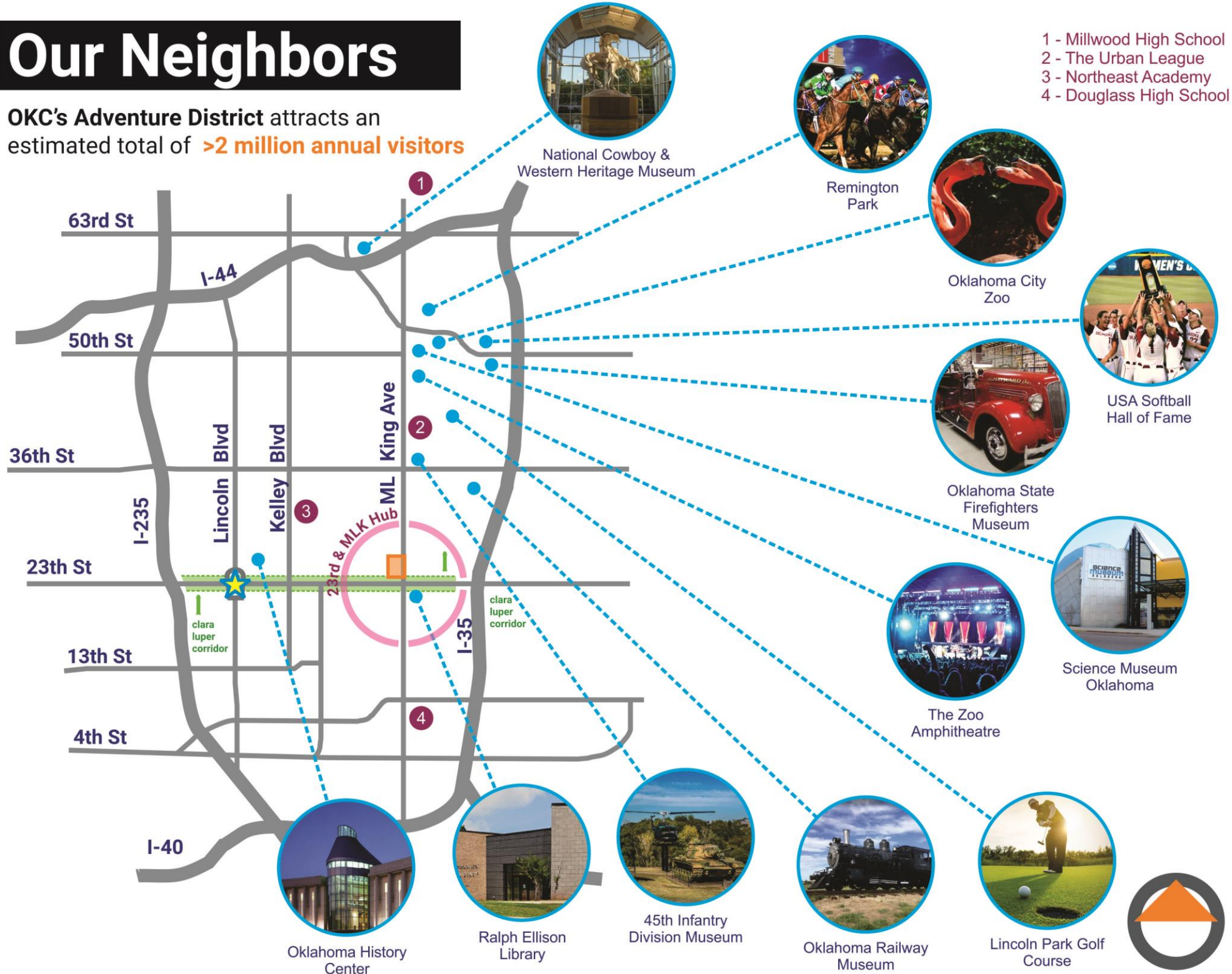


it was the youth who sat down
so that men could stand up

Our Neighbors

OKC's Adventure District attracts an estimated total of **>2 million annual visitors**

- 1 - Millwood High School
- 2 - The Urban League
- 3 - Northeast Academy
- 4 - Douglass High School



National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum



Remington Park



Oklahoma City Zoo



USA Softball Hall of Fame



Oklahoma State Firefighters Museum



Science Museum Oklahoma



The Zoo Amphitheatre



Lincoln Park Golf Course



Oklahoma Railway Museum



45th Infantry Division Museum



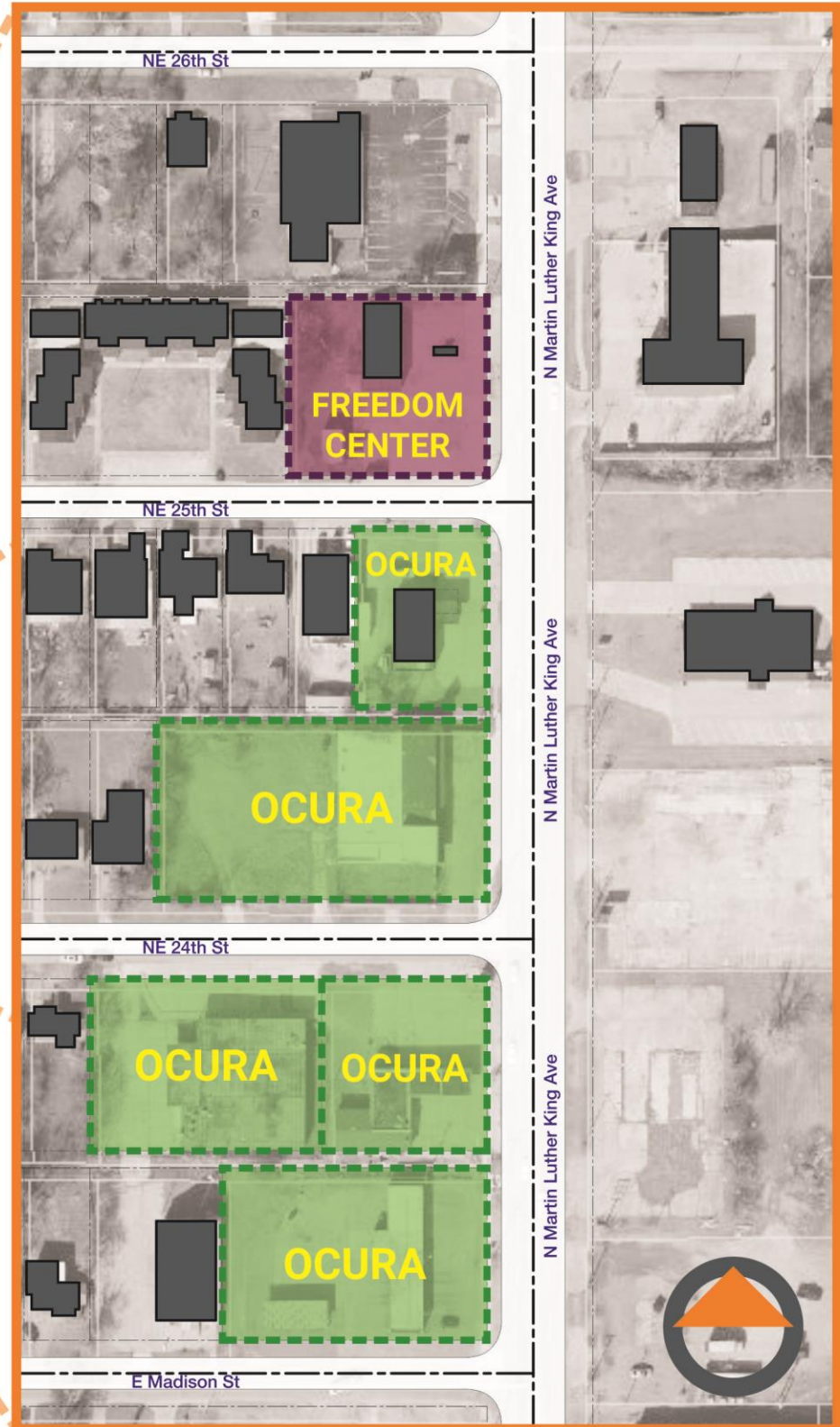
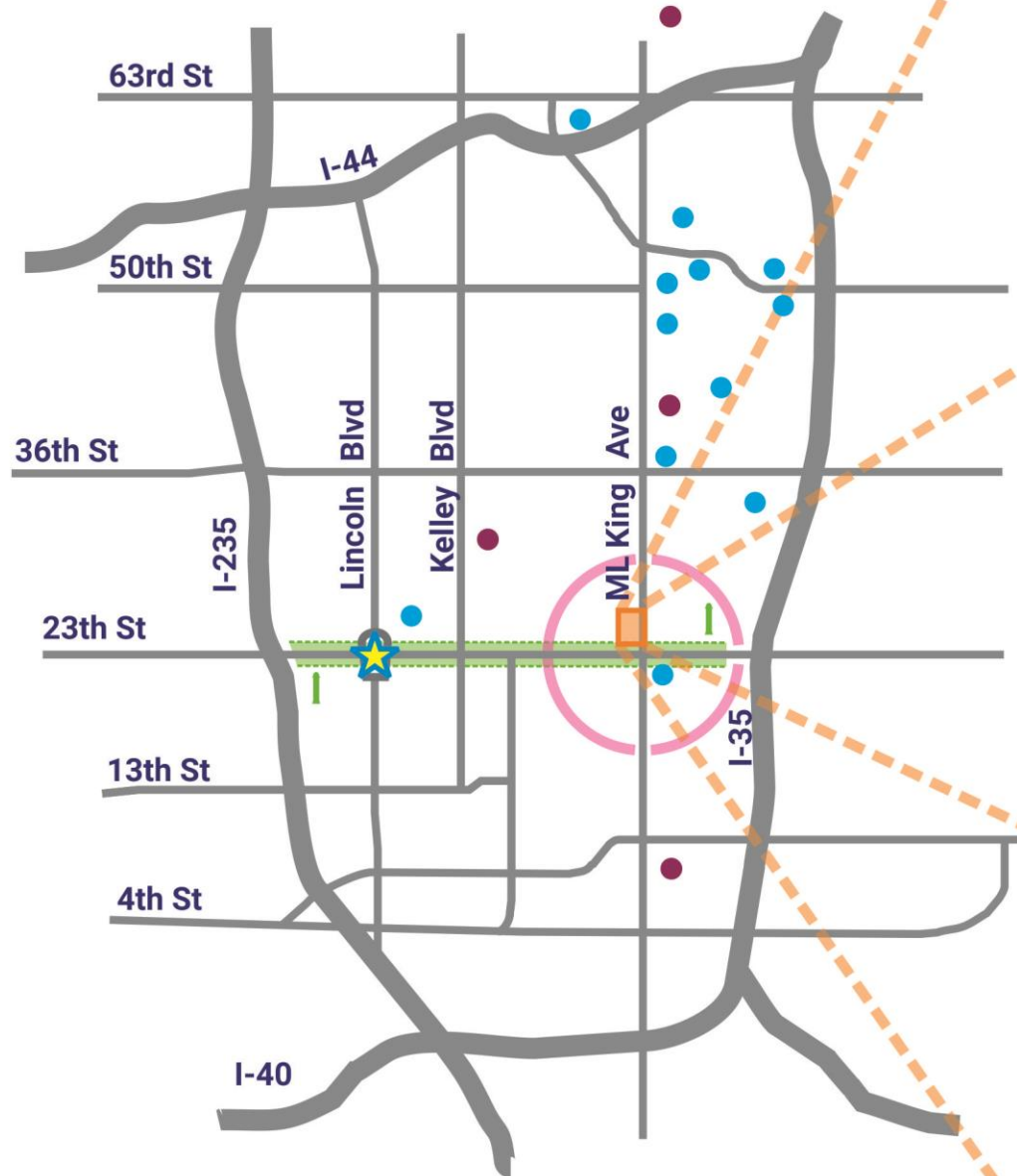
Ralph Ellison Library



Oklahoma History Center

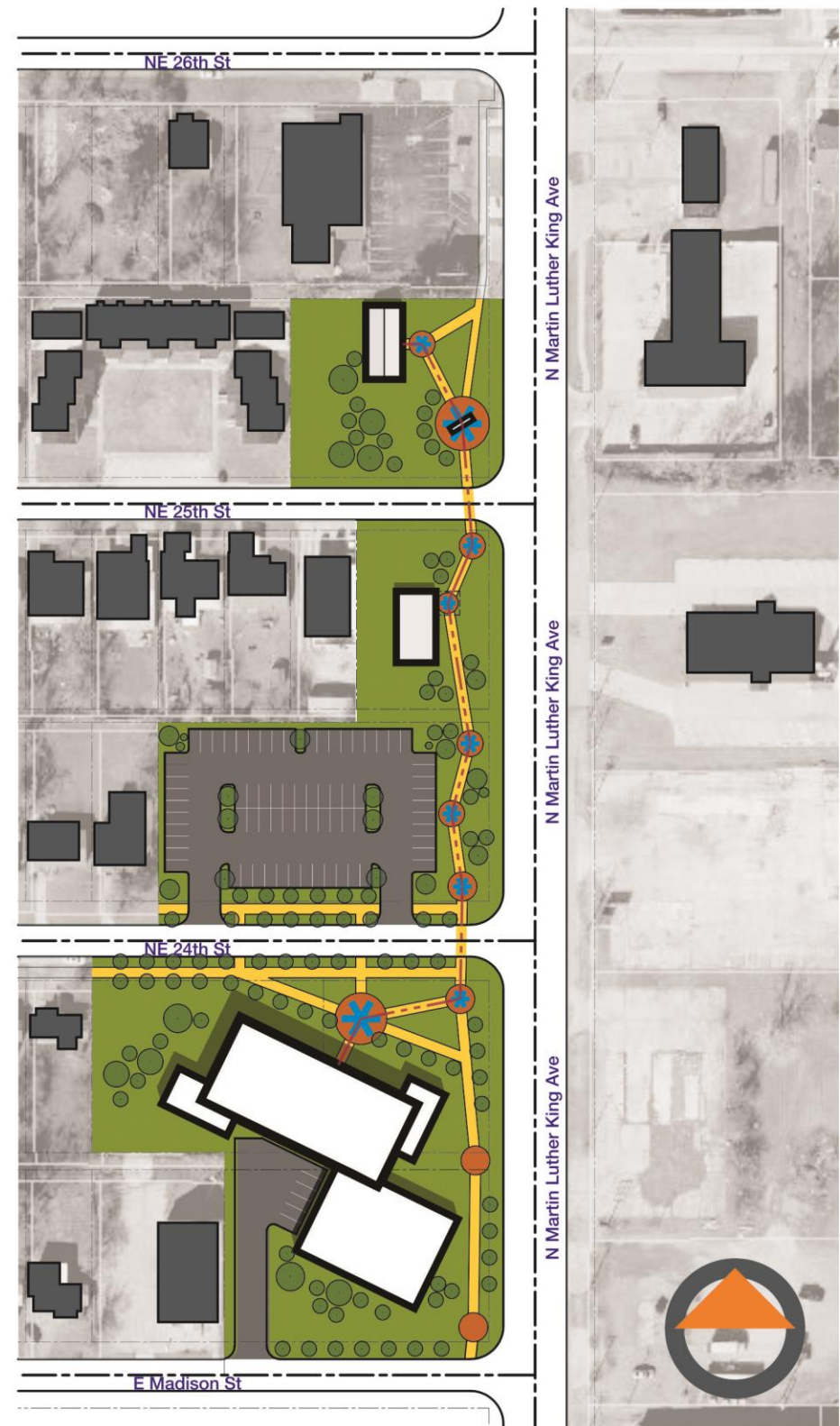


Location

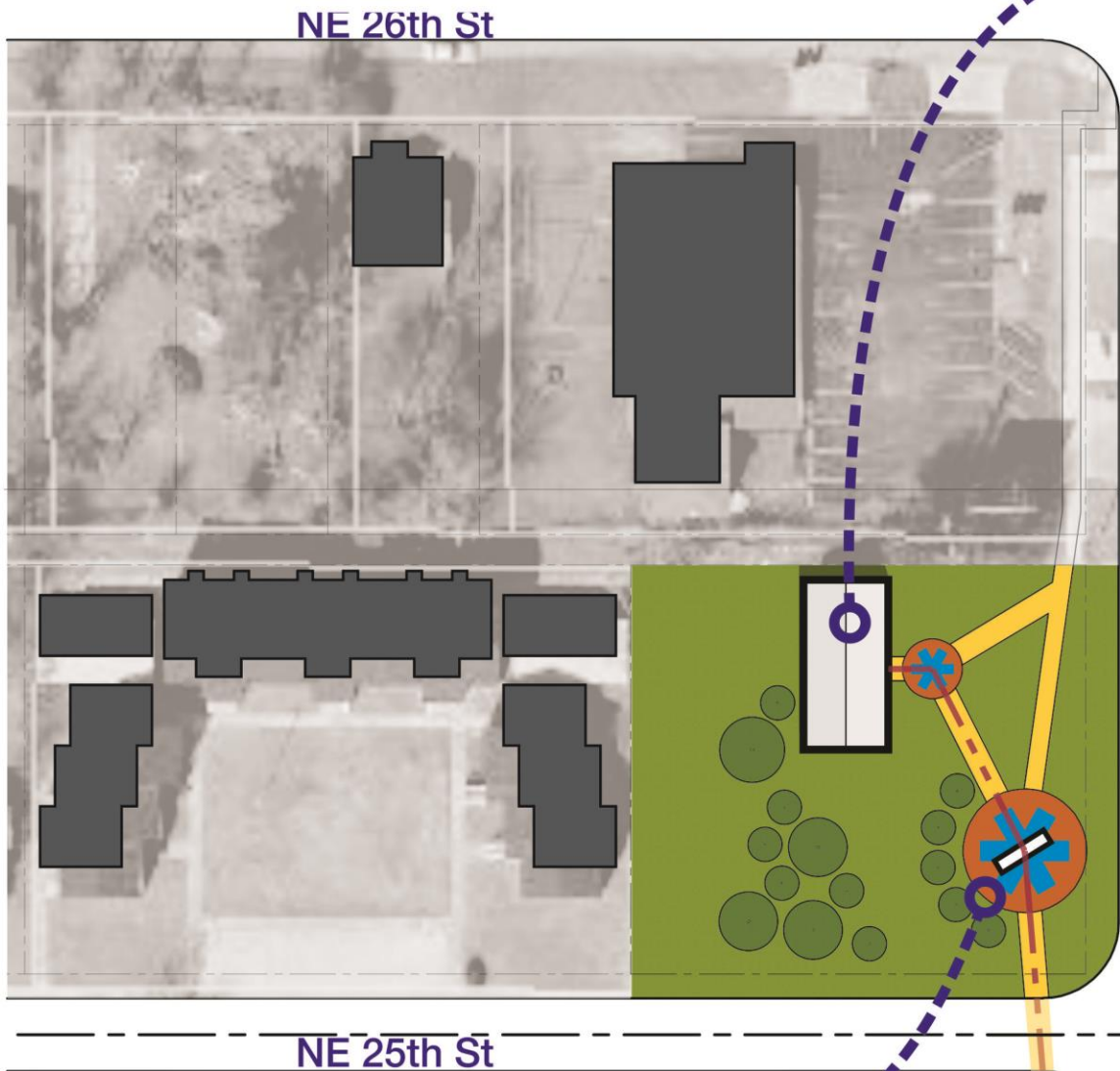


The Clara Luper Civil Rights Center of Oklahoma City

- Restore and preserve the existing Freedom Center building
- Construct/develop Smithsonian Museum caliber Civil Rights campus
- Create interactive legacy journey from Freedom Center to the Civil Rights Center

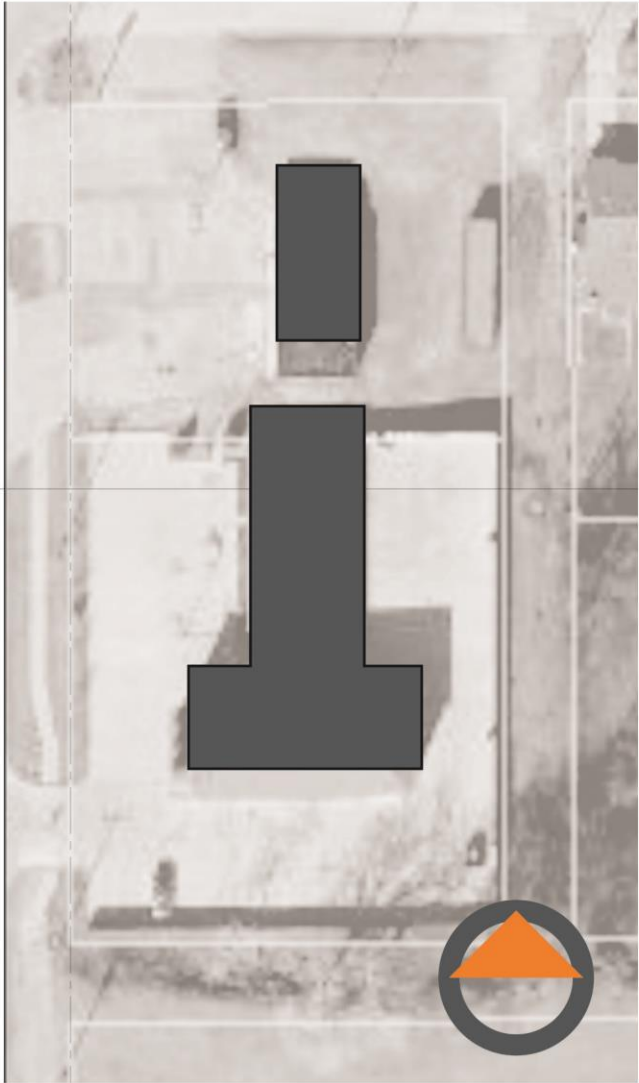


Pioneers of '58



Existing Freedom Center

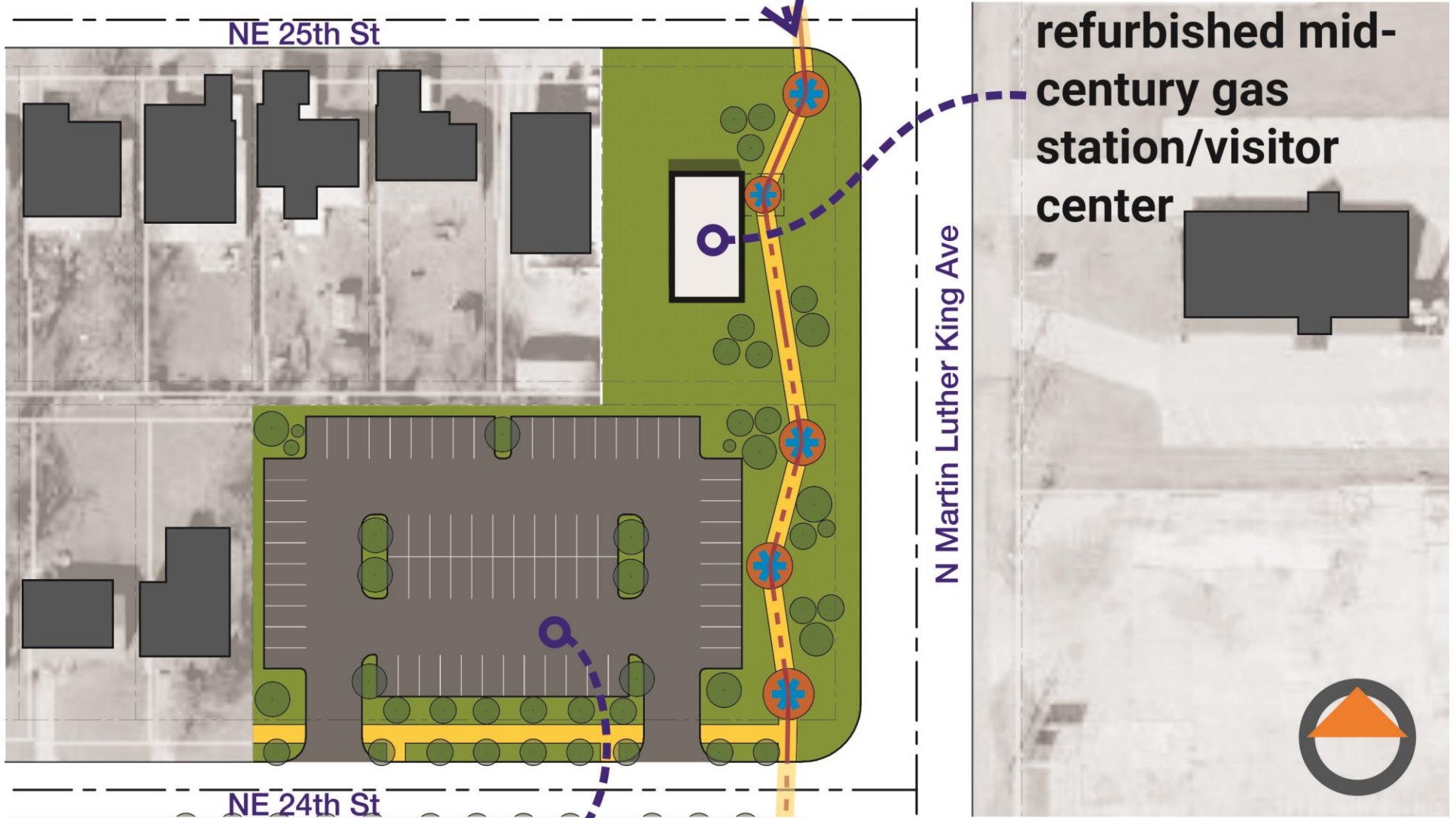
N Martin Luther King Ave



Monument to Civil Rights
Pioneers [on 58 deg angle]

the Journey

interactive legacy
journey to equality



refurbished mid-
century gas
station/visitor
center

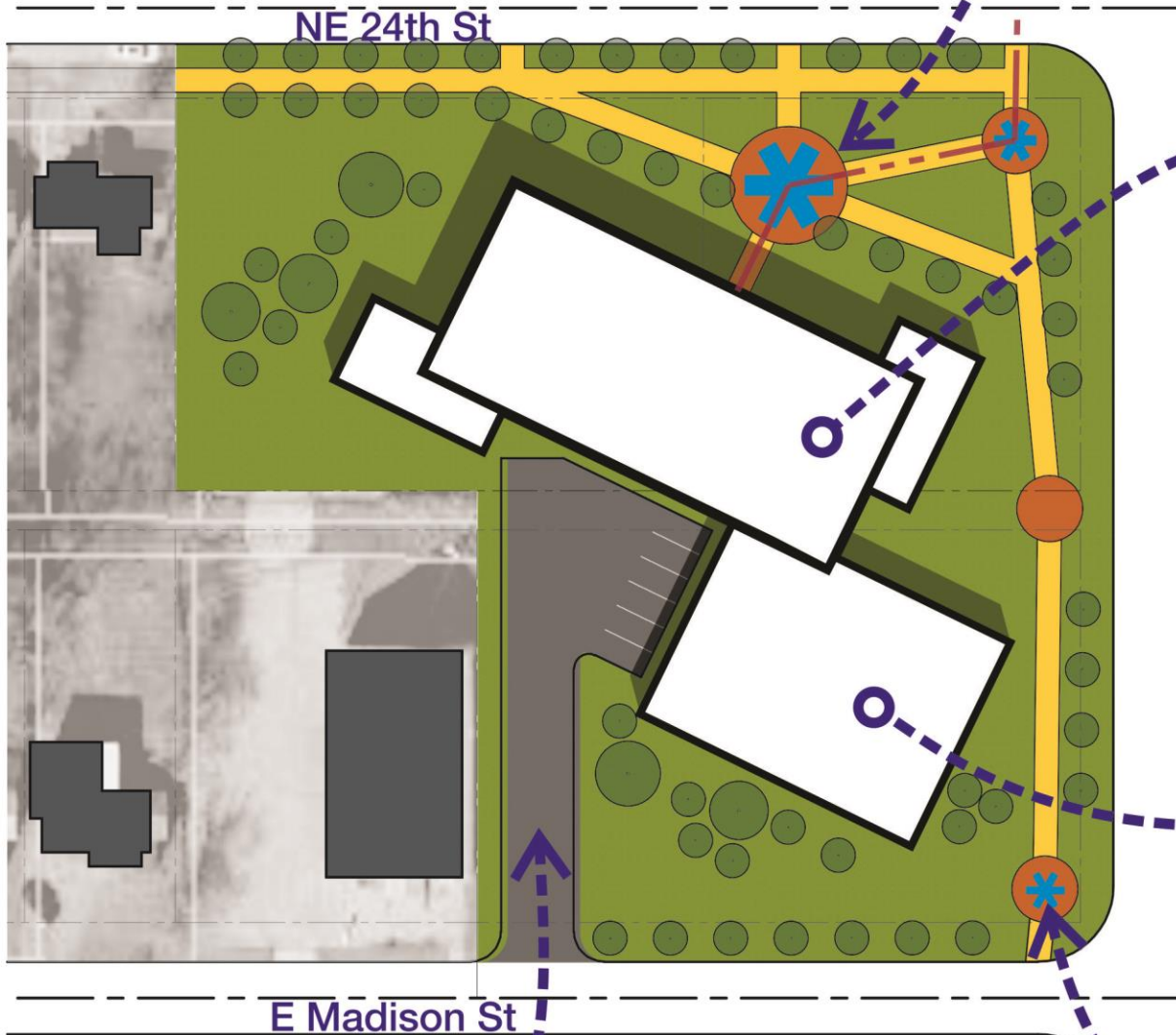
N Martin Luther King Ave

NE 25th St

NE 24th St

Civil Rights Center
parking

Destination Venue



grand plaza/entry
monument to sanitation
workers' strike of '69

primary building
[64 deg angle]

multi-purpose
education and
event center

service entry

public art with youth
the journey continues

N Martin Luther King Ave

NE 24th St

E Madison St



Similar Places

**Greenwood Cultural Center
Tulsa, OK**



**Rosa Parks Museum
Montgomery, AL**



**Native American Cultural Center
Oklahoma City, OK**



**Woody Guthrie Museum
Tulsa, OK**



**Mississippi Civil Rights Museum
Jackson, MS**



Estimated Costs

Estimated Construction Costs

Freedom Center Restoration*	\$ 500,000.00
Gas Station Conversion to Visitors Ctr.	\$ 250,000.00
Parking (Incl. School&Tourist Buses)	\$ 420,000.00
OKC Clara Luper Civil Rights Center	\$ 6,600,000.00
Exhibits and Programs***	\$ 5,650,000.00
Education and Event Center	\$ 2,700,000.00
CL Corridor Connectivity/Improvements	\$ 750,000.00
Landscape, Hardscape, Site Lighting	\$ 730,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 17,600,000.00

Estimated Project Soft Costs

Land acquisition**	\$ 1,250,000.00
Consulting Fees	\$ 1,400,000.00
Furniture, Furnishings and Equipment	\$ 1,750,000.00
Endowment	\$ 3,000,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 7,400,000.00

Total Est. Project Cost: \$ 25,000,000.00

*Existing Freedom Center land area: approximately 40,511 square feet

**OCURA Land on ML King Boulevard: 5 parcels totaling approx. 112,041 sq ft

***\$5 million was spent on the exhibits for the similarly sized Woody Guthrie museum in Tulsa



Existing Freedom Center



Existing Monument



Existing Gas Station

Notes

- Facts about the history of the Freedom Center (building) located at 2609 N. Martin Luther King Ave., Oklahoma City.
- Circa 1945 built as a Mobil gas station
- Clara Luper was a teacher, historian, civil rights activists
- 1958 – 1964 led successful sit-ins in downtown OKC businesses
- 1965 Freedom Center, Inc. (FCI) was created
- In 1967 FCI under Mrs. Luper's leadership, arrangements were made to acquire 2609 N. MLK building and property
- The building became home to the NAACP Youth Council
- Served as organizing hub for fair housing, and other protest marches
- “Serve as an educational and motivation center for culturally disadvantaged children”, said Mrs. Luper
- 1968 fire nearly destroyed center...no one ever charged w/the arson.
- 1969 Mayor Ron Norick appointed the “Mayor's United citizens Committee for the Reconstruction of the NAACP Youth Council Freedom Center”
- 1969 Lieutenant Governor Nigh spoke at groundbreaking ceremony
- 1970 an open house was held in a refurbished building
- Over next 50 years continued serving as vital resource to young and old alike, providing training/education classes; mentoring programs; voter registration drives, fundraising campaigns and community meetings
- 2011 Freedom Center doors closed permanently
- Building vacant and in deteriorating condition since that time
- 2018 property placed under court receivership (Leonard Benton, Receiver)
- 2019 reconstituted Freedom Center BofD develops two-phase plan to restore and preserve existing building
- Property received Historic Landmark Designation (City of OKC)
- Building not ready for occupancy yet (insurance issues)
- Board of Directors requests the plan be included in MAPS4 program initiative
- The goal is to create a cultural environment that educates the public about the history of civil rights struggles in Oklahoma City
- An endowment is included in the request to ensure long term sustainability of the center.
- The vision of this project will transform 3 blocks of blight into a beautifully landscaped campus of public activity
- Conceptual masterplan envisions a campus design that incorporates the existing buildings as a part of the overall plan which will include a new state-of-the-art 10,000sf Smithsonian museum caliber structure and 7,500 sq ft multi-purpose education and event center to be named the:

**The Clara Luper
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