

THE CITIES OF LIGHT PROJECT

*A NATIONAL COVENANT FOR SACRED ARCHITECTURE,
CIVIC RENEWAL, AND PILGRIMAGE TO THE HEART OF THE
AMERICAN REPUBLIC*



*“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is
risen upon thee.”*

— Isaiah 60:1

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Executive Summary

Purpose

The Cities of Light Proposal is a national covenant to revive the architectural, cultural, and moral heart of the Republic through the creation of sixteen monumental civic and sacred sites across the United States. Each City of Light will be a center for public assembly, education, and pilgrimage, blending classical and sacred architecture with economic and cultural revitalization.

Scope

- ❖ **Tier 1:** Eight founding cities in strategic geographic and historic locations, serving as the core beacons of the project.
 - ❖ **Tier 2:** Eight expansion cities, broadening the reach of the vision and embedding it in all major U.S. regions.
-

Why Now

America's civic beauty, moral cohesion, and shared historical memory are fading. The built environment has shifted toward transience and utilitarianism, eroding public pride and unity. The Cities of Light will reverse this decline by creating enduring landmarks that uplift the spirit, inspire virtue, and strengthen national identity.



Economic Impact

- ❖ Total Capital Investment: ***\$38.2B***
- ❖ Job Creation: ***123,204 construction jobs and 102,555 permanent jobs nationwide.***
- ❖ 5-Year GDP Impact: ***\$51.45B***
- ❖ Tourism Impact: ***41.1M visitors annually, \$12.0B in local revenue.***

Funding Model

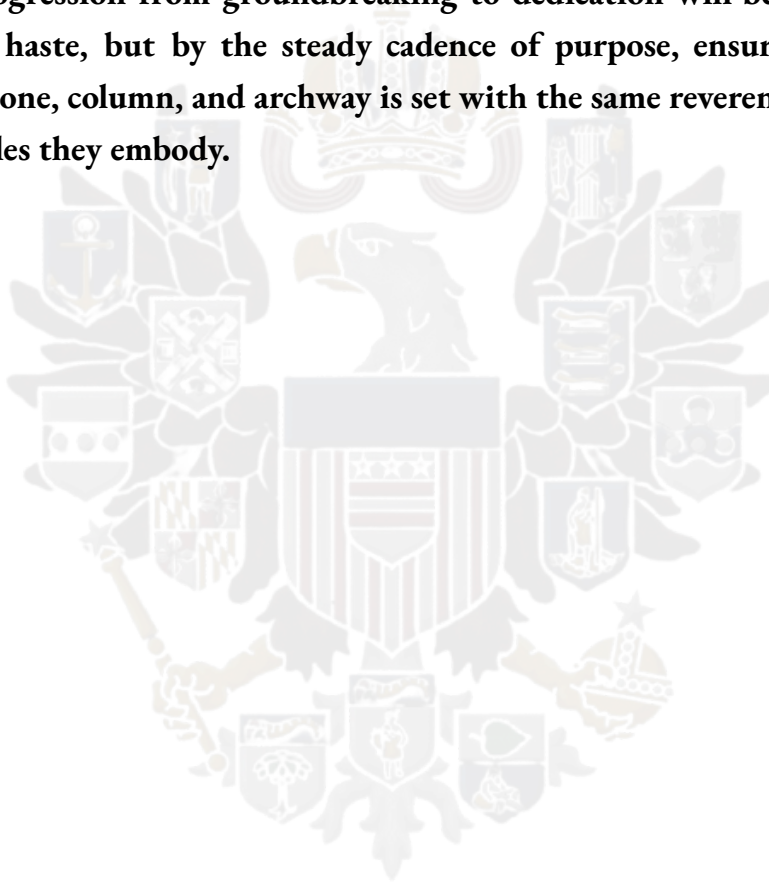
- ❖ Public / Philanthropy / PPP / Programmatic mix (***~45% / 30% / 20% / 5%***)
- ❖ Endowment principal target: ***\$3.1B for perpetual maintenance.***
- ❖ ***All materials*** and labor sourced domestically wherever possible.

Timeline

- ❖ ***Phase 1 (Years 1–5):*** Site acquisition, design, and construction of Washington, Philadelphia, Cincinnati.
- ❖ ***Phase 2 (Years 6–10):*** St. Louis, Chicago, Atlanta/Nashville.
- ❖ ***Phase 3 (Years 11–15):*** San Francisco/Oakland Hills, Lexington/Villa Hills.
- ❖ ***Tier 2 cities follow in subsequent five-year cycles.***



The Cities of Light Project shall proceed in ordered phases: the first eight cities to be raised as the foundation and proof of the vision; the following tier to complete the circuit of pilgrimage and civic renewal across the land; each site built with enduring materials, time-honored design, and artisanship worthy of the Republic’s legacy. The progression from groundbreaking to dedication will be marked not by haste, but by the steady cadence of purpose, ensuring that every stone, column, and archway is set with the same reverence as the principles they embody.





Conclusion

Thus, from the first stone laid to the final spire crowned, this work is not merely the construction of monuments or propaganda ventures, but the raising of the national altar, a living testimony that the Republic still remembers the Source of her light. The Cities of Light are conceived as beacons to guide the weary, rallying places for the faithful, and citadels of learning for generations yet unborn. In their courts or forums, the citizen will be reminded of the high calling of liberty, the solemn duty of self-government, and the enduring covenant between God and the people. With each phase fulfilled, the nation shall find itself not diminished by the passage of years but renewed in purpose, restored in integrity and virtue, and strengthened in unity.

It is with this charge before us, and the solemn witness of history upon our conscience, that we proceed ahead towards a declaration of intent and consecration of the labor that lies ahead.



Preamble

When in the course of national affairs, a people once consecrated to liberty and blessed by the Almighty find themselves adrift upon a sea of moral decay and civic neglect, it becomes the solemn duty of those who remain faithful to recall the ancient foundations, to repair the breaches, and to raise again the standard of righteousness in the midst of the land. For a nation is not sustained by commerce alone, nor preserved by arms without number, but by the cultivation of virtue, the reverence of law, the honoring of God, and the visible beauty of her public spaces which inspire the soul to noble endeavor.

We behold in our age the fading of that beauty. The public square, once the heart of fellowship and discourse, has been surrendered to sterility and haste. The architecture of our day too often speaks not of hope, truth, and endurance, but of transience and self-interest. The monuments that once drew the eye upward to the Creator and onward to the future are overshadowed by structures conceived in the narrow counsel of mere efficiency. We stand at a threshold: to either accept the shadows as our inheritance or to kindle the light anew.

Therefore, in recognition of our duty before God, in reverence for the sacrifices of our forebears, and in covenant with the generations yet to come, we do ordain and establish this Proposal for the Cities of Light—a work of sacred architecture and civic renewal, whereby the soul of the Republic may again find its reflection in her walls, her gardens, and her gates. These Cities shall serve as pillars in the land, uniting sacred truth and public virtue, that our children may know, see, and cherish the heritage entrusted to them under Almighty God.



Introduction Report

It is an observable truth that the visible state of a nation's cities mirrors the condition of its soul. Where the streets are noble and the edifices adorned with meaning, the people walk in dignity. Where the public spaces are stripped of beauty and the architecture speaks only of commerce, the spirit of the people is diminished. In the present condition of these United States, the latter too often prevails. The plazas where neighbors once conversed in peace are empty or filled with the noise of passing distraction. The courthouses where justice was once dispensed in chambers of solemn grandeur now sit in buildings void of reverence. The schools, meant to be nurseries of wisdom, are housed in structures that neither uplift the heart nor encourage the mind toward higher things.

This decay is not merely the fruit of economic want, but of philosophical surrender. We have abandoned the truth, long understood by our forefathers and affirmed by the greatest civilizations, that architecture is a silent but constant teacher. It instructs the citizen without lecture, calling him to honor, to civility, to courage. Rome raised her forums not only for trade but for law and memory. Jerusalem's temple was not only a place of worship but the very symbol of the nation's covenant with God. Even in our young Republic, the Capitol, the courthouses, the great universities were designed to embody the virtues they served.

Yet the lamp of beauty need not be extinguished. Before us stands an opportunity—indeed, a charge—to restore what has been neglected and to plant anew what has been uprooted. The Cities of Light shall be such a restoration. They will serve as beacons, placed across the



land, where faith and freedom meet in stone and spire, in garden and gate. They shall call the people upward, reminding them that they are heirs to both a heavenly promise and an earthly duty. This is not the indulgence of nostalgia but the deliberate crafting of a future worthy of the name American.





Article I — Declaration of Purpose

Section 1

It is within the lawful power of a free and sovereign people, through their elected representatives and by the instruments of constitutional governance, to provide for the general welfare of the Republic by the creation and maintenance of public works of lasting significance. Such works may be constructed for the adornment of the nation, the instruction of her citizens, and the cultivation of unity among her diverse regions, provided that they serve no sectarian imposition contrary to the liberties of conscience enshrined in our laws. The Cities of Light, being open to all citizens without coercion of creed, and dedicated to the civic virtues upon which the Republic stands, fall squarely within this lawful purview.

In the framing of the Constitution, the Founders recognized that the government's duty to promote the general welfare was not confined to defense and commerce but extended to those undertakings which ennoble the citizenry. Public buildings of beauty, monuments of remembrance, and spaces for assembly and discourse have always been within the scope of this authority. The erection of these Cities is therefore no novel extension of power, but a restoration of its rightful exercise. It is the reassertion that the health of a Republic depends not only upon the strength of her arms or the balance of her ledgers but upon the cultivation of her public spirit.

Furthermore, precedent in both state and federal action affirms the right and duty of the government to preserve and promote the cultural and historical heritage of the nation. From the establishment



of the Smithsonian Institution to the preservation of historic landmarks, the law has long recognized that the story of a people must be given form and kept in the sight of her citizens. The Cities of Light, embodying both the story and the aspiration of America, are in keeping with this established legal tradition.





Section 2

The Holy Scriptures bear constant witness to the place of beauty and sacred architecture in the life of a people. The Lord commanded Moses to build the Tabernacle according to a divine pattern, that the presence of God might dwell among His people. Solomon, son of David, was charged with the raising of a temple of surpassing splendor, that all nations might see and know the glory of the Lord in Israel. The prophets spoke of Zion as the joy of the whole earth, not only for her moral law but for the radiance of her courts and the peace of her streets.

It is thus no presumption, but obedience to divine example, to raise in our own land places where the sacred is made visible in stone, wood, and light. For as the Psalmist declares, “Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.” The Cities of Light will be such sanctuaries—not in the sense of exclusive worship, but as public spaces where the beauty of God’s creation and the justice of His commandments are reflected in the works of human hands. They will call to mind that all authority on earth is but a stewardship under the sovereignty of Heaven.

Moreover, the Scriptures affirm that the righteous nation which keeps the truth may enter into blessing. By placing at the heart of our civic architecture the testimonies of faith, virtue, and liberty, we acknowledge that our freedoms are not self-created but are gifts preserved only by the fear of God and the practice of righteousness. The Cities of Light shall stand as enduring reminders that “Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.”



Section 3

From the first Congress to the present day, the legislative and executive branches have commissioned works of public architecture, sculpture, and design that reflect the ideals of the Republic. The Capitol itself, with its classical lines and towering dome, was conceived not merely as a chamber of legislation but as a symbol of unity and permanence. The monuments to Washington, Lincoln, and Jefferson are not military installations, yet they serve the defense of the nation by strengthening the hearts of her people.

The Supreme Court has upheld the government's ability to recognize and preserve the nation's heritage, even where that heritage bears the imprint of religious belief, so long as it does not compel the conscience or establish a state church. In cases concerning historic monuments, inscriptions, and public ceremonies, the Court has acknowledged that the acknowledgment of the divine in public life is consistent with the traditions and understanding of the Founders.

The Cities of Light, as proposed, will be voluntary places of visitation, open to all faiths and to those of none, yet unapologetic in their acknowledgment that America's liberty has flourished under the moral canopy of biblical truth. They will be both lawful and fitting, standing in the same tradition as the public works and memorials that have long graced our capital and our states. In their design and purpose, they will honor the constitutional balance between liberty of conscience and the public recognition of divine providence.



Article II — Establishment of the Cities of Light

Section 1

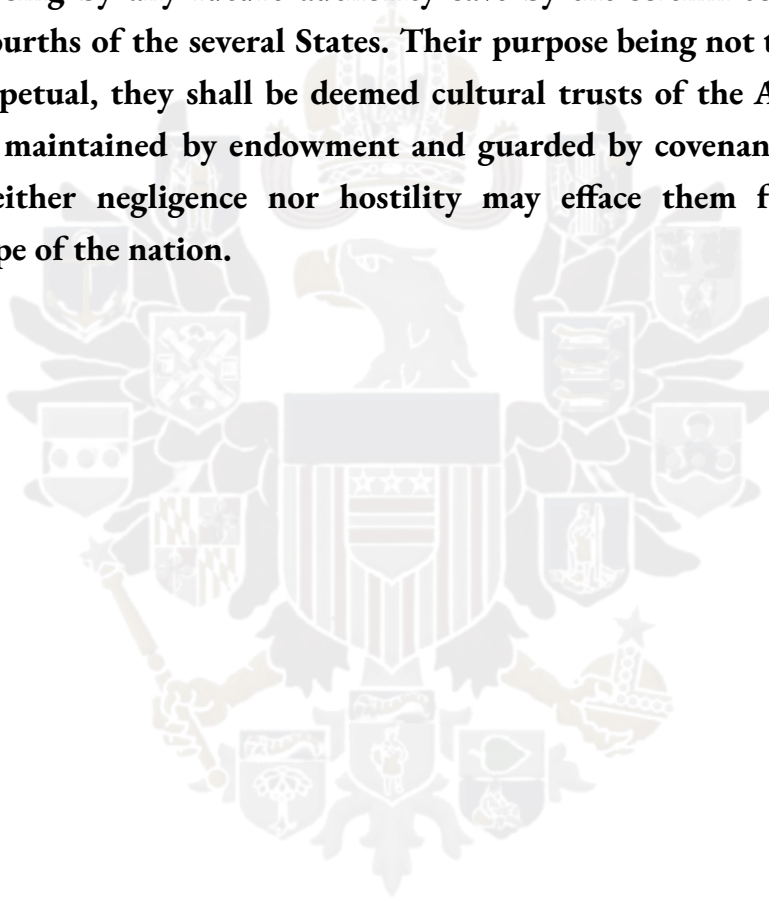
Be it enacted by the sovereign will of the people, through the lawful organs of their federal and state governments, that the Cities of Light shall be established as enduring works of national significance, placed at appointed locations throughout the Republic for the purposes of public instruction, cultural preservation, and the promotion of unity. The Congress, exercising its power to provide for the general welfare, may designate the sites, secure the necessary lands, and commission their construction, in cooperation with state and municipal authorities, so that these edifices may stand unshaken for centuries to come.

In accordance with this authority, the first three Cities shall be so situated as to represent the nation's founding, her governmental heart, and her covenantal heritage. In the District of Columbia shall rise The Mount of Government and the Temple of the People, a marble forum encircled with columns inscribed with the names of patriots and statesmen, crowned by a dome of bronze and glass beneath which the nation's charter and the Holy Scriptures may be read side by side. In the city of Philadelphia shall stand The Court of the Founders and the Cathedral of Liberty, wherein twelve heroic statues of the Republic's architects shall surround a fountain of constitutional blessings, behind which shall rise a Gothic spire whose bells toll upon each anniversary of independence. In the city of Cincinnati, on the banks of the Ohio, shall be laid The Garden of the Republic and the Tabernacle of the Covenant, blending natural beauty with sacred geometry, and housing under its dome the great



charters of liberty together with the biblical covenants that inspired them.

These first three Cities, being lawfully commissioned as works for the general welfare, shall be secured against sale, destruction, or repurposing by any future authority save by the solemn consent of three-fourths of the several States. Their purpose being not transient but perpetual, they shall be deemed cultural trusts of the American people, maintained by endowment and guarded by covenant law, so that neither negligence nor hostility may efface them from the landscape of the nation.





Section 2

The establishment of these Cities finds warrant in the divine record, for the Most High has, in every age, appointed that His people remember Him through the works of their hands. As Moses was commanded to raise the Tabernacle, so that the presence of the Lord might dwell among Israel, and as Solomon was charged to build the Temple in Jerusalem for the glory of God and the instruction of the nations, so too may a free people erect places where justice, mercy, and truth are made visible in enduring form. In these Cities, the Name of the Lord shall be honored, not by compulsion of conscience, but by the public acknowledgment that the liberty of man is best preserved under His law.

In this light, the next three Cities shall bear particular witness to the biblical truth that a people's gates and walls speak of their character. In St. Louis, upon the banks of the Mississippi, shall stand The Gateway Forum and the Columns of Destiny, an amphitheater for public discourse approached by six towering columns, each representing a virtue without which no republic may stand: Justice, Mercy, Courage, Truth, Faith, and Unity. In Chicago shall be raised The White City Restored and the Basilica of Nations, recalling the beauty of the Columbian Exposition, with fifty chapels under one dome, each dedicated to a State of the Union, united beneath the sovereignty of Almighty God. In the South, shared between Atlanta and Nashville, shall rise The Southern Pillar and the Jubilee Grounds, where gardens, colonnades, and a monumental inscription of reconciliation proclaim that in Christ all enmity is broken, and in liberty all citizens are reconciled.



These works, grounded in the pattern of holy writ, will serve as memorials and exhortations alike, declaring that unless the Lord keep the city, the watchman will waketh but in vain. They will stand as an embodiment of the proverb that “by wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.” In their stones and spaces shall be written the testimony that national strength flows from righteousness, and that beauty is the servant of truth.





Section 3

It is consonant with the original intent and continued application of the Constitution that the government of the United States, in harmony with the several States, should undertake public works of monumental character, both to honor the past and to inspire the future. The Northwest Ordinance, early appropriations for the construction of the Capitol and the White House, and later acts commissioning national monuments all bear witness to the legitimacy of such undertakings. In every generation, Congress has recognized that the physical landscape of the nation ought to reflect her ideals.

Thus the final two Cities shall be lawfully incorporated into the national trust as enduring monuments under constitutional protection. In the western heights above the Pacific shall rise The Western Watchtower and the Lighthouse of Grace, visible to sailors far at sea, a sentinel of the Republic's western frontier and a beacon of divine favor upon her shores. In the heartland, at Lexington and Villa Hills in Kentucky, shall be raised The American Jerusalem and the Crown of the Heartland, a domed sanctuary modeled upon the Holy Sepulchre yet adorned with the symbols of the American covenant—eagles, wheat, rivers, and the names of each State—encircled by gardens and altars for the renewal of the people's pledge to God and to one another.

These final works, like those before them, shall be held inviolate save by constitutional amendment or the express consent of three-fourths of the States, ensuring that they endure beyond the sway of passing politics. They will join the roster of great national works which,



though they speak with the accents of reverence and faith, remain open to all and compel none, thus fulfilling the constitutional balance between liberty of conscience and the public acknowledgment of divine providence.

The foregoing enumeration of the Cities of Light secures their place in the covenantal law of this Proposal; their fuller descriptions—detailing vision, geography, and projected civic and economic benefit—are set forth in the subsequent section entitled City Descriptions and Regional Impact, which shall be read as an integral part of this enactment and as the living testimony of the purposes herein declared.



Article III — Principles of Design and Construction

It is the established right of the American people, acting through their constitutional government, to determine the character and quality of public works undertaken in their name and supported by their resources. This right extends not only to the provision of basic utility, but to the elevation of those works to a standard befitting the dignity of the nation. Just as Congress has prescribed architectural guidelines for federal buildings, the preservation of historic landmarks, and the restoration of cultural treasures, so may it now prescribe the standards by which the Cities of Light shall be designed, constructed, and maintained. These standards shall be binding upon all contractors, architects, and artisans engaged in the work, and shall be enforced by a commission vested with oversight authority under federal and state law.

In the lawful exercise of this authority, it shall be required that every City of Light be constructed of materials of proven endurance, drawn wherever possible from the soil and quarries of the United States, and wrought with the skill of American craftsmen. The law shall further require that all designs honor the principles of harmony, proportion, and symbolic meaning, such that no element is placed without purpose, and no structure rises without speaking to the virtue it represents. The intent is not to indulge in extravagance, but to invest in permanence—recognizing that what is built for a century must be conceived with a view to eternity.

Furthermore, the legislative authority extends to ensuring that these Cities remain free and open to the public without fee for entry, save for the reasonable costs of guided tours or special exhibitions, so that



no citizen is barred from the instruction and inspiration these places afford. In this manner, the principles of equality and common ownership are preserved, and the Cities stand not as private enclaves for the privileged, but as public trusts for the benefit of the whole people.





Section 2

The counsel of Scripture makes plain that in the building of any work meant to endure, care must be taken to lay a sure foundation and to employ labor not only of the hand but of the heart. When the Lord commanded Moses to fashion the Tabernacle, He gave detailed instructions for every measure and material, appointing skilled artisans and filling them with His Spirit to accomplish the work. Likewise, in the days of Solomon, the temple was constructed with such precision and beauty that its fame spread among the nations, and the Queen of Sheba herself came to see the glory of the Lord displayed therein.

The Cities of Light, though not temples in the narrow sense, shall follow the biblical pattern of excellence. They will be built with intentionality, that every stone and every ornament might proclaim order, beauty, and meaning. For as the Apostle Paul writes, “Let all things be done decently and in order.” In this manner, the Cities will testify that the God who is not the author of confusion is also the source of all that is harmonious and well-proportioned in creation and in the works of man.

Moreover, the Scriptures admonish that the works of the righteous ought to be established for the generations to come. As the Psalmist declares, “Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord.” By ensuring that the Cities of Light are constructed with durability, artistry, and moral purpose, we align ourselves with this command, building not for the praise of the present age alone, but for the edification of those yet unborn.



Section 3

From the earliest days of the Republic, Congress has recognized the value of design standards in public works. The L'Enfant Plan for the capital city, the specifications for the construction of the Capitol dome, and the architectural competitions for national memorials are all examples of the constitutional exercise of this power. These undertakings have shaped not only the skyline of our cities but the spirit of the people, reinforcing the truth that the built environment is a silent but eloquent declaration of national character.

In keeping with this precedent, the Cities of Light shall be subject to a constitutional mandate that their design reflect the ideals of the Republic and the heritage of the people. This mandate does not impose a single style upon all, but rather requires that each City draw from the rich treasury of classical, Gothic, and American traditional architecture, harmonized with its geographic setting and historic role. In this way, the Cities will speak a common language of virtue while retaining the distinctive voice of their region.

The constitutional precedent further affirms that public works of this magnitude must be insulated from the whims of transient politics. As with the preservation of national parks and historic monuments, the design and construction of the Cities of Light shall be protected by law from alteration that would diminish their integrity. This ensures that the vision enshrined at their founding remains unmarred, and that future generations may see them as they were intended—symbols of unity, faith, and the enduring covenant of the American people.



Article IV — Civic and Economic Benefit

Section 1

It is both the right and the duty of government, under the Constitution, to enact measures that promote the general welfare, which term has ever been understood to encompass the fostering of civic virtue, the strengthening of public morale, and the advancement of lawful commerce. The Cities of Light, as works of national character, will serve all three ends. Their establishment will create employment for architects, artisans, masons, engineers, and laborers across the land, thereby directly contributing to the livelihood of countless citizens. Their continued operation will sustain positions in education, event management, maintenance, and tourism, ensuring that the benefit is not confined to the moment of construction but endures for generations.

In addition to direct employment, the Cities will stimulate the economies of their host cities and surrounding regions through increased travel and pilgrimage. Visitors, both from within the Republic and from foreign lands, will come to behold the beauty and learn the history these Cities preserve. Their presence will give rise to new enterprises—inns, restaurants, shops, cultural festivals—all lawfully taxed and regulated for the public good. Thus the Cities will be engines of commerce, not drains upon the treasury, and will repay their initial cost many times over in the form of economic vitality.

Furthermore, the legal authority to justify this enterprise is strengthened by the precedent of other public investments that, while cultural in nature, have yielded measurable economic return. National



parks, historical districts, and monumental works such as the Hoover Dam or the Golden Gate Bridge have all brought both symbolic and material benefit. The Cities of Light, by combining cultural significance with architectural grandeur, will fall squarely within this category, uniting lawful purpose with tangible profit for the commonwealth.





Section 2

The Scriptures testify that a people is blessed when it builds with foresight, labors with diligence, and conducts its affairs in a manner that uplifts the poor and benefits the whole. The wisdom literature declares, “Through wisdom is a house builded; and by understanding it is established: and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.” The Cities of Light will embody this truth, for they will not only be works of beauty but also sources of sustenance and prosperity to the communities that host them.

The Bible also commends the principle that work should be fruitful and enduring. The prophet Isaiah spoke of the righteous who “shall long enjoy the work of their hands; they shall not labor in vain.” These Cities, constructed with skill and purpose, will bring enduring returns, ensuring that the labor of those who raise them is not fleeting. In this way, the project aligns with the biblical mandate to steward resources wisely, invest in the work of the hands, and ensure that such works contribute to the flourishing of the community.

Moreover, Scripture upholds the principle that civic prosperity and moral virtue are intertwined. When Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem, he not only restored physical security but also revived the people’s spirit and renewed their commitment to the covenant. In similar manner, the Cities of Light will inspire citizens to take pride in their heritage, to live uprightly, and to engage in the life of the community, producing benefits both material and spiritual.



Section 3

The history of the Republic offers abundant precedent for public works whose benefits extend beyond the material to the moral and civic. The building of the National Mall in Washington, D.C., the preservation of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, and the restoration of historic battlefields have all demonstrated that investments in cultural and historical infrastructure yield both economic gain and civic renewal. Such works remind citizens of their shared identity, foster national unity, and create spaces where public life can flourish.

The Constitution grants to Congress the power to “promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts,” and though the phrase was framed in the context of intellectual property, the principle applies broadly: that the government may foster endeavors which elevate the culture, educate the people, and inspire invention. By creating the Cities of Light, the Republic will be promoting both useful arts and civic science—the science of ordered liberty, sustained by moral vision.

In the constitutional tradition, it is also recognized that the symbols and monuments of a nation serve as guardians of its unity. Just as the preservation of the Star-Spangled Banner, the maintenance of Arlington National Cemetery, and the upkeep of the Statue of Liberty fall within lawful precedent, so too will the maintenance of the Cities of Light. In each case, the investment is not merely in stone and mortar, but in the heart of the Republic herself.



Article V — Funding and Stewardship

Section 1

It is within the lawful competence of the Congress of the United States, in conjunction with the several States, to raise, appropriate, and direct funds for the establishment and maintenance of works undertaken for the general welfare. The Constitution, in granting this authority, imposes upon the Legislature the duty to see that public moneys are expended with fidelity, prudence, and foresight, so that they may yield benefits commensurate with their cost. The Cities of Light, being works of perpetual public benefit, lawfully warrant the allocation of resources from the national treasury, as well as the cooperation of state and municipal revenues, for their creation and upkeep.

The funding for these Cities shall be drawn from a combination of appropriated federal and state funds, philanthropic gifts, and private contributions, in such a manner as to avoid the undue burden of any single source. Endowment funds shall be established for each City, the principal thereof to remain inviolate, with the interest applied solely to the care, preservation, and programming of the site. The law shall require that all receipts, disbursements, and contracts related to the Cities be made subject to public record and independent audit, thereby ensuring that the people's money is neither squandered nor misapplied.

Furthermore, the legal framework for stewardship shall include provisions for the appointment of Trustees for each City, selected for their integrity, skill, and knowledge, and charged with the sacred



trust of preserving the Cities in their intended form. These Trustees shall be bound by oath to the Constitution and to the purposes of this covenant, and shall be subject to removal for cause by a supermajority of the appointing authorities, so that negligence or corruption may find no shelter in the guardianship of these works.





Section 2

The Holy Scriptures teach that the wise steward is he who manages the resources entrusted to him in such a way as to produce fruit for the Master. Our Lord commends the servant who, having been given talents, invests them and returns them with increase, while condemning the servant who, out of fear or sloth, buries them in the ground. Likewise, the Cities of Light are talents entrusted to the nation, and it is our duty to fund them with prudence, manage them with diligence, and maintain them for the increase of virtue, unity, and faith among the people.

The law of God also teaches the principle of offerings for the work of the sanctuary. When Moses called for the building of the Tabernacle, the people brought gold, silver, precious stones, and fine craftsmanship, each according to his ability, until the work was supplied in full. This voluntary generosity, combined with the faithful oversight of appointed artisans and priests, ensured that the Tabernacle was completed according to the Lord's pattern and maintained in holiness. In like manner, the funding of the Cities of Light shall invite the free-will offerings of citizens, corporations, and charitable trusts, in addition to the lawful appropriations of government, so that the work may be a joint labor of public authority and private devotion.

Moreover, Scripture warns against the neglect of sacred trusts. The prophet Malachi rebuked the people for allowing the house of the Lord to fall into disrepair while attending to their own houses. The Cities of Light, though civic in nature, are spiritual in significance, and must not be left to crumble through indifference or the



withholding of needed resources. The maintenance of these Cities shall thus be regarded as a moral duty, as much as a civil obligation, and their funding shall be a continual testament to the nation's commitment to righteousness and beauty.





Section 3

The annals of our Republic contain numerous examples wherein Congress, the Executive, and the States have acted in concert to fund the preservation of monuments, the construction of civic works, and the maintenance of institutions of learning and culture. The appropriation for the completion of the Washington Monument, the ongoing maintenance of the Library of Congress, and the endowments of the Smithsonian Institution all serve as precedents for the lawful funding of works that, while not military in nature, are essential to the moral and intellectual defense of the nation.

In keeping with this tradition, the funding of the Cities of Light shall be grounded in the principle that the physical symbols of our liberty and the tangible expressions of our covenant are worthy of public investment. Just as the Capitol dome is repaired when it shows signs of wear, and just as the Jefferson Memorial is cleaned and preserved for posterity, so shall the Cities of Light be cared for in perpetuity, with costs lawfully borne by the people whose heritage they embody.

The Constitution also recognizes, through the Spending Clause and the powers reserved to the States, that the funding of works of joint national and local significance may be shared among multiple jurisdictions. This cooperative model, long employed in the funding of infrastructure, educational facilities, and cultural institutions, will ensure that the Cities of Light are supported not only by the central government but by the States and communities that host them. In this way, the stewardship of the Cities will be a shared covenant, binding the Union together in a visible and enduring labor.



Article VI — Implementation and Guardianship

Section 1

It is within the express and implied powers of the United States Government, in partnership with the several States, to establish a lawful framework for the phased implementation, oversight, and perpetual guardianship of public works of national significance. The Cities of Light, by their very nature as enduring cultural and civic institutions, require an orderly and deliberate sequence of construction, so that each may be raised in due season, with the full measure of skill and resources allotted to it. Congress may, by statute, designate the order of development, set forth the criteria for readiness, and determine the appropriations for each phase.

To this end, the legal plan for implementation shall be divided into successive phases: the first encompassing the Cities of Washington, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati; the second including St. Louis, Chicago, and the Southern Pillar at Atlanta and Nashville; and the third comprising the Western Watchtower at San Francisco/Oakland Hills and the American Jerusalem at Lexington and Villa Hills. Each phase shall be commenced only when the preceding phase is completed to the satisfaction of the oversight commission, ensuring that the work is executed with excellence and without the dissipation of resources.

Guardianship shall be vested in a National Commission on Sacred Architecture and Civic Renewal, a body corporate and politic, composed of Commissioners appointed jointly by the President, the



Senate, and the Governors of the host States. This Commission shall possess authority to manage, maintain, and defend the Cities against misuse, alteration, or neglect, and to ensure that the founding vision remains inviolate. Their powers shall be exercised in fidelity to both the letter and spirit of this covenant, and their actions shall be subject to judicial review to prevent abuse or dereliction.





Risk & Continuity Safeguards

To guard against political reversal, cultural hostility, or neglect:

1. **Constitutional Entrenchment:** Each City of Light to be designated a cultural trust requiring a three-fourths vote of the States for sale, demolition, or repurposing.
2. **Independent Endowment Oversight:** Financial governance insulated from political interference through multi-jurisdictional oversight and legal trust protections.
3. **Charter of Purpose Clause:** Immutable language binding each site to its founding mission, prohibiting alteration that undermines moral, civic, or historical integrity.
4. **Disaster Recovery Protocol:** Pre-funded reserves and federal–state compacts ensuring rapid restoration in the event of natural disaster, civil unrest, or attack.
5. **Succession Planning:** Appointment of deputy commissioners and rotating leadership terms within the National Commission to prevent capture by partisan interests.



Section 2

The Word of God teaches that every great work must be undertaken in order, with foresight, and with guardians appointed to its care. Nehemiah, in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, assigned each family a portion of the wall and set watchmen to guard it day and night. Likewise, the building of the Tabernacle and the Temple was accompanied by the appointment of Levites and priests to oversee the sanctity of the work, its maintenance, and the proper use of its courts. These examples bear witness that the implementation and guardianship of a work is as important as its design and construction.

The Scriptures also teach that the wise man counts the cost before building, lest he lay the foundation and be unable to finish, and thus become a byword among men. The phased approach to the Cities of Light follows this divine counsel, ensuring that each phase is fully provided for before it is begun, and that the work proceeds in strength rather than in haste. This pattern safeguards against the folly of overreach, and ensures that the vision, once commenced, shall not falter through want of means or lack of diligence.

Moreover, the Bible commends the principle of stewardship over that which is consecrated to noble purpose. As the Apostle Paul charged Timothy to “guard the good deposit entrusted to you,” so too must the guardians of the Cities of Light preserve them from corruption, neglect, or profanation. Their charge is not merely administrative but moral: to defend these works as visible testimonies of truth, unity, and the blessings of liberty under God.



Section 3

The constitutional history of the United States affirms the propriety of establishing permanent commissions or trusts for the oversight of national works of enduring importance. The governance of the Smithsonian Institution, the stewardship of Arlington National Cemetery, and the administration of the National Park Service all demonstrate that Congress may lawfully create bodies empowered to preserve, interpret, and defend national treasures in perpetuity. Such bodies are vested with the authority to ensure that these works remain faithful to their original purpose and accessible to the people.

The phased development of the Cities of Light finds precedent in other national endeavors requiring careful sequencing and multi-year planning. The construction of the interstate highway system, the Apollo space program, and the restoration of historic federal buildings all proceeded in stages, under legal mandates that balanced ambition with prudence. This approach ensured the completion of each component to the highest standard, while maintaining accountability at every stage.

In similar fashion, the National Commission on Sacred Architecture and Civic Renewal shall be constituted to safeguard the Cities of Light from the erosion of their vision and the encroachment of transient political fashions. Their duty, under constitutional law, is to serve as trustees of a covenant between past, present, and future, ensuring that these works remain what they were conceived to be: beacons to the Republic and pillars of her identity.



Phasing & Milestones

Implementation Timeline

- **Year 1:** Secure congressional authorization; form National Commission on Sacred Architecture and Civic Renewal; begin national design competitions; initiate site acquisition for first three cities.
- **Years 2–3:** Complete architectural and engineering plans; award construction contracts; establish local apprenticeship programs and guild partnerships.
- **Year 4:** Groundbreaking ceremonies for first three cities; begin concurrent construction.
- **Year 5:** Completion and dedication of Phase 1 cities; formal public opening and inaugural national pilgrimage.

Subsequent Phases

- **Phase 2 (Years 6–10) and Phase 3 (Years 11–15)** will follow the same five-year cycle, with each phase beginning only upon the full completion and dedication of the previous one. This ensures quality, fiscal responsibility, and the protection of the founding vision.



Covenantal Budget and Resources Provision

Be it ordained and declared that the funding, maintenance, and perpetual stewardship of the Cities of Light shall be secured through a covenantal framework binding upon the United States and the several States in whose territory the Cities stand. The initial appropriation for the commencement of the first phase shall be drawn jointly from the federal treasury and from the treasuries of the host States, apportioned in a manner agreed upon by mutual compact, and ratified by the legislatures concerned. In addition to these public funds, voluntary contributions from citizens, associations, and charitable foundations shall be received into a designated endowment, the principal of which shall remain inviolate, and the income thereof applied exclusively to the preservation, programming, and security of the Cities.

It is further provided that the resources necessary for construction shall, wherever possible, be drawn from the bounty of the Republic itself—stone from her quarries, timber from her forests, metal from her mines, and the skill of her own artisans and craftsmen. In this way, the building of the Cities shall strengthen domestic industry and bind the work to the land it honors. Contracts for labor and materials shall be awarded through open and transparent processes, with preference given to enterprises that uphold the highest standards of quality, ethical conduct, and civic responsibility.

Ongoing expenses for the operation of the Cities—including maintenance of grounds and structures, hosting of educational and cultural events, and the provision of security—shall be met from a combination of endowment returns, designated public



appropriations, and revenues lawfully generated by auxiliary activities consistent with the purposes of this covenant. At no time shall the Cities be permitted to fall into disrepair for want of resources, nor shall their integrity be compromised by commercial ventures alien to their sacred and civic character. Thus shall the covenant be kept, and the light preserved, for as long as the Republic shall endure. that future generations may rise to bless the labor of their fathers, and the nations of the earth may behold in these works the steadfastness of a people who built not for a day, but for the honor of God and the liberty of man.



City Descriptions and Regional Impact

In the course of this great enterprise, the eight Cities of Light shall be set as beacons across the breadth of the Republic, each chosen with regard to its historic significance, geographic placement, and capacity to embody the union of sacred truth and civic virtue.

In the East, the capital of Washington shall host the Mount of Government and the Temple of the People, where the Potomac's course lends both majesty and accessibility to the nation's governmental heart.

Philadelphia, cradle of independence, shall be adorned with the Court of the Founders and the Cathedral of Liberty, a fitting tribute to the birthplace of the Republic's charter.

Along the Ohio, Cincinnati's Garden of the Republic and Tabernacle of the Covenant shall blend riverine beauty with solemn remembrance of our constitutional and biblical heritage.

St. Louis, gateway to the West, shall stand resplendent with the Gateway Forum and the Columns of Destiny, opening toward the Mississippi and recalling the virtues that shaped our continental expansion.

Chicago shall see the restoration of the White City and the raising of the Basilica of Nations, harmonizing the splendor of its architectural past with its position as a meeting place of commerce and culture.



In the South, Atlanta and Nashville together shall host the Southern Pillar and Jubilee Grounds, declaring reconciliation and unity in a land that has known both division and triumph.

Upon the Pacific heights, San Francisco and Oakland Hills shall bear the Western Watchtower and the Lighthouse of Grace, their light shining to the furthest horizon of the Republic.

And in the heartland, Lexington and Villa Hills shall raise the American Jerusalem and the Crown of the Heartland, binding together the nation's covenant under God in the midst of her fields and rivers.

The geography of each City has been chosen not only for its beauty and symbolic weight, but for its power to magnify economic and civic vitality. These works, once completed, shall draw visitors from every State and from foreign lands, making each City a center of pilgrimage, education, and cultural exchange.

The increase in travel will stir the growth of inns, public houses, merchants, and trades, while the ongoing operation of each site will require the employment of guides, curators, gardeners, artisans, and custodians, thus creating a steady current of honorable labor. The surrounding communities will see an enlargement of infrastructure—roads, bridges, and public conveyances—built to serve the flow of citizens to and from these places, thereby increasing both the value of property and the convenience of daily life.

The presence of such noble works will inspire civic pride, encouraging further investment in the maintenance and improvement of the neighborhoods and districts that surround them.



In the aggregate, the Cities of Light will be engines not only of economic growth but of moral and intellectual renewal. They will strengthen the fabric of the Republic by giving the people places where history, faith, and duty are made visible, and where citizens of every background may gather in peace.

The employment generated in their construction will call forth the skill of architects, masons, carpenters, metalworkers, glassmakers, and landscapers, reviving traditional trades even as it integrates modern techniques. In their daily operation, the Cities will foster the arts, host assemblies of learning, and serve as the setting for great civic occasions, thereby enriching the cultural life of the nation.

Through the combination of their geographic placement, their architectural splendor, and the constancy of their public benefit, they will repay, in prosperity and in virtue, far more than the cost of their raising, and will stand as a perpetual testament to what a free people, under God, can accomplish when they build for the ages rather than for the day.



Washington, D.C.

The Mount of Government and the Temple of the People

In the capital city of our Republic, upon the gentle rise above the Potomac's bank, shall stand the Mount of Government, a marble forum encircled by stately colonnades whose columns are engraved with the names of patriots and statesmen who have borne the weight of national trust. At its summit shall rise the Temple of the People, a domed sanctuary wrought of bronze and glass, within which the founding charters of the nation shall be set alongside the Holy Scriptures, signifying the union of moral law and civil liberty. The surrounding grounds shall be adorned with fountains, gardens, and statues, forming a sacred civic precinct where citizens may walk in reflection and leaders may be reminded of their oath before God and the people.

Geographically, Washington stands at the confluence of the Potomac River and the legacy of the nation's founding vision, a city planned with deliberation to embody the ideals of a free Republic. The Mount of Government will rise in harmonious relation to the Capitol and the Mall, forming a triad of power, memory, and covenant. In the heart of the federal district, accessible from every State by rail, road, and air, the site will be a place of pilgrimage for citizens and a visible emblem to foreign dignitaries of the principles that animate the American experiment. Its location will allow it to serve as both the people's sanctuary and the nation's visible conscience, speaking in stone and garden of justice tempered by mercy.



The construction of this work will bring immediate employment to architects, masons, metalworkers, glaziers, and artisans of every kind, reviving traditional crafts and integrating modern engineering. The ongoing presence of the Temple and its surrounding forum will stimulate the city's economy through increased visitation, public ceremonies, and educational programs. Hotels, eateries, and local businesses will benefit from the influx of travelers, while the federal district will gain a cultural and spiritual landmark of enduring appeal. The Mount of Government will not only elevate the city's skyline but will also anchor its economy in a continual flow of domestic and international attention, binding commerce to culture and labor to liberty.



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The Court of the Founders and the Cathedral of Liberty

In the city where the Declaration was proclaimed and the Constitution framed shall rise the Court of the Founders, a grand square bordered on all sides by twelve heroic statues of the men who shaped the birth of the Republic. At the court's center shall be a fountain whose waters are engraved with the blessings of liberty, flowing as a perpetual reminder of the rights secured by sacrifice. Rising beyond the court shall stand the Cathedral of Liberty, a Gothic spire wrought of luminous stone, its bells tolling upon every anniversary of Independence and upon occasions of national thanksgiving. Within its vaulted halls, stained glass shall depict the great moments of America's founding alongside biblical scenes that inspired the framers, thus uniting in one vision the sacred and the civic.

Geographically, Philadelphia stands upon the banks of the Delaware River, a city of deep historical resonance and architectural grandeur. As the cradle of American independence, its streets bear the footsteps of statesmen, printers, and patriots whose labors gave birth to a new nation. The Court and Cathedral will be placed in proximity to Independence Hall, forming a sacred axis of memory that binds past to present. Easily reached from New York, Washington, and the broader Mid-Atlantic, the site will be a magnet for those who seek to encounter the founding spirit in its original home. The very air of Philadelphia will be enriched by the visible testimony of these works, proclaiming to citizen and foreigner alike that liberty is not an accident of history, but a covenant to be kept.



The raising of the Court and Cathedral will employ masons, sculptors, metalworkers, glass artisans, carpenters, and laborers, reviving crafts that once adorned the city in its golden age. The presence of this precinct will draw pilgrims, scholars, and tourists from across the Republic and from foreign lands, increasing the city's stature as a destination of moral and cultural significance. Local inns, merchants, and artisans will benefit from the continual stream of visitors, while schools and universities will find in the Cathedral and Court a living classroom of civics and faith. In both economic vigor and civic renewal, Philadelphia will rise again as the city that not only gave birth to liberty but also guards it in the splendor of stone and song.



Cincinnati, Ohio

The Garden of the Republic and the Tabernacle of the Covenant

Upon the north bank of the Ohio River, where commerce and culture have long met in fruitful exchange, shall be laid the Garden of the Republic—a place where the ordered geometry of classical design is married to the living beauty of orchards, terraces, and reflecting pools. Colonnaded walks will lead the pilgrim toward the Tabernacle of the Covenant, a domed hall wherein the great charters of liberty—the Magna Carta, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution—shall be preserved side by side with the biblical covenants that inspired them. These documents shall be displayed beneath a canopy of light, inscribed with the words of both prophet and patriot, so that all who enter may understand the sacred trust into which they have been born.

Cincinnati, seated upon the curve of the Ohio and within reach of the heartland's rich farmlands, has long been known as the "Queen City," a title earned by its industrious spirit and its role as a gateway between North and South. Its location makes it a natural gathering point for citizens from across the Midwest and beyond. The Garden and Tabernacle will be placed to command views of the river and the surrounding hills, symbolizing the flow of history and the steadfastness of the land. By its geography, Cincinnati is uniquely poised to serve as a meeting place for pilgrims from every region, and its cultural heritage will be deepened by the presence of this new civic sanctuary.



The construction of these works will provide employment for stonecutters, landscapers, horticulturalists, artisans, and scholars, uniting the labor of hand and mind in the service of beauty and truth. Once established, the Garden will draw visitors year-round, sustaining local businesses and encouraging the growth of hospitality, dining, and cultural industries. Educational programs hosted in the Tabernacle will bring students, legal scholars, and church groups from across the Republic, turning Cincinnati into a center of constitutional and biblical learning. In this way, the Garden of the Republic and the Tabernacle of the Covenant will yield not only economic growth but also a harvest of civic pride and moral instruction for generations to come.



St. Louis, Missouri

The Gateway Forum and the Columns of Destiny

In the city long hailed as the “Gateway to the West,” upon the eastern bank of the mighty Mississippi, shall rise the Gateway Forum—a great open-air amphitheater designed for oratory, debate, and public assembly. Approaching this Forum, the citizen shall pass between the Columns of Destiny, six towering fluted pillars, each crowned with carvings representing one of the virtues without which no Republic may endure: Justice, Mercy, Courage, Truth, Faith, and Unity. The Forum’s design will blend the grandeur of the Roman amphitheater with the openness of the American commons, symbolizing both the permanence of law and the liberty of speech. Here, citizens and leaders alike shall contend with ideas under the open sky, reminded always that the destiny of a free people is forged in honest discourse.

Geographically, St. Louis occupies a place of both historic and symbolic weight. It stands at the point where the rivers of the East give way to the vast plains and mountains of the West, the very threshold of America’s great continental expansion. From here, explorers and settlers once set forth to chart new frontiers, and it is fitting that this City of Light should rise where the Republic first turned her face toward the horizon. The Mississippi’s broad waters will serve as a living backdrop to the Forum, linking the commerce and culture of the interior to the broader currents of the nation’s life. The placement of the Columns upon this threshold will declare to all who pass that the future of the Republic rests upon the virtues they embody.



The raising of the Gateway Forum and Columns of Destiny will call forth the skill of masons, architects, sculptors, and artisans, reviving the city's legacy as a center of craftsmanship and design. Their completion will make St. Louis a destination for civic festivals, national debates, and public ceremonies, drawing citizens from every State. The influx of visitors will bring new life to local commerce, from hospitality to retail, while the presence of such a forum will invite investment in surrounding districts. More than an economic boon, the Gateway Forum will become a living institution of citizenship, where free men and women may gather to reason together, to dispute in good faith, and to remember that the Republic's course is steered not by force, but by the virtues upheld in the hearts of her people.



Chicago, Illinois

The White City Restored and the Basilica of Nations

In the great metropolis upon the shore of Lake Michigan shall be raised the White City Restored, a work of luminous stone and colonnaded grandeur recalling the majesty of the 1893 Columbian Exposition. Broad boulevards lined with statuary will lead to the Basilica of Nations, a domed sanctuary in which fifty chapels—one for each State of the Union—shall be joined beneath a single roof, their diverse adornments harmonizing in a common devotion to liberty under God. Murals within the basilica will depict the history of the Republic as a family of States, each distinct yet united, while inscriptions will bear the words of the Constitution and the Scriptures that have guided the nation's course. In this place, the beauty of the arts will be wedded to the dignity of civic purpose, offering a visible embodiment of unity in diversity.

Geographically, Chicago commands the central shores of the Great Lakes, a hub where rail, road, and waterway meet, linking the industrial heartland to the broader continent. Its history as a crossroads of commerce and culture, and its resilience in rising from the ashes of fire to build anew, make it a fitting guardian for this City of Light. The White City Restored will stand as a beacon to the Midwest, reflecting the lake's expanse in its marble facades and calling the people to remember that greatness is measured not only by material might but by the nobility of what is built for the ages. From its steps, the horizon will meet the water, as if to remind the visitor that the Republic's promise is as broad as the view before him.



The building of the White City and Basilica will employ a legion of craftsmen—stonemasons, carvers, glassmakers, painters, and metalworkers—bringing renewed vigor to trades that once flourished in the city. The completed precinct will attract travelers from across the Republic and abroad, strengthening the local economy through hospitality, retail, and cultural events. Conferences, interfaith gatherings, civic ceremonies, and artistic festivals will find a home within its halls, ensuring that the site is not a static monument but a living center of public life. In this way, Chicago will be enriched not only in commerce but in character, as the White City Restored becomes both an economic engine and a perpetual reminder of the unity and purpose that bind the States together.



Atlanta, Georgia / Nashville, Tennessee

The Southern Pillar and the Grounds of Concord

In the lands where the Appalachian foothills descend to fertile plains, and where the melodies of the South have long stirred the heart of the Republic, shall be raised the Southern Pillar, a monumental colonnade inscribed with the words “Reconciled in Liberty.” This work shall stand as a visible declaration that the bonds of the Union, once strained by strife, are made stronger through reconciliation and the shared pursuit of virtue. Beyond the Pillar shall stretch the Jubilee Grounds—spacious greens and shaded promenades designed for concerts, festivals, and civic assemblies, where music, oratory, and fellowship may flourish in harmony. Fountains, gardens, and memorials will adorn the grounds, celebrating the courage, faith, and industry that have marked the Southern character.

Geographically, Atlanta and Nashville together command a strategic place in the heart of the South, linking the eastern seaboard to the Mississippi Valley and serving as vital centers of commerce, transportation, and culture. Atlanta, the gateway of the Southeast, and Nashville, the capital of Tennessee and a beacon of music and learning, together embody the spirit of a region that has endured trial, embraced renewal, and contributed richly to the life of the nation. The Southern Pillar, placed to serve both cities and their surrounding States, will rise as a shared monument, while the Jubilee Grounds will serve as a common meeting place for the people of the South and for all who journey there in the spirit of unity.



The raising of this City of Light will bring employment to architects, builders, landscapers, musicians, and event artisans, uniting the arts of construction with those of performance. The continual hosting of festivals, conventions, and public celebrations will draw travelers year-round, infusing local economies with steady commerce. Surrounding districts will see growth in lodging, dining, and trade, while the Jubilee Grounds will foster civic pride, cultural exchange, and public discourse. In uniting the history of the South with the vision of a reconciled Republic, the Southern Pillar and Jubilee Grounds will strengthen the region's role as a vital contributor to both the economic and moral fabric of the Union.



San Francisco, California / Oakland Hills

The Western Watchtower and the Lighthouse of Grace

High upon the ridges where the land meets the Pacific and the winds carry the scent of salt and cedar, there shall rise the Western Watchtower, a sentinel of stone and light, standing as the Republic's westernmost guardian. From its summit, one may behold the sweep of the Golden Gate, the meeting of ocean and bay, and the endless horizon beyond. Beside it shall stand the Lighthouse of Grace, a chapel of white granite and crystal glass whose beacon will shine across the waters to guide sailors, welcome travelers, and proclaim that America's strength rests not in arms alone, but in the light of faith and the steadfastness of her covenant. Pathways and terraces will wind between the two structures, affording the pilgrim places of rest and reflection amid gardens filled with the flora of the Pacific coast.

Geographically, the Oakland Hills and the surrounding Bay Area form one of the most striking natural harbors in the world, a meeting place of East and West where commerce, innovation, and culture converge. San Francisco's history as a port of entry for pioneers, immigrants, and merchants has woven it into the very fabric of the nation's growth. From the days of the Gold Rush to the modern age of technology, it has been a threshold to opportunity. Placing the Western Watchtower and Lighthouse of Grace here will anchor the region's role as a western gateway while giving it a visible emblem of moral and civic aspiration, set high above the bustling harbor and cities below.



The building of this City of Light will provide work for stonemasons, glaziers, engineers, shipwrights, gardeners, and artisans skilled in the shaping of light and stone. Its presence will draw voyagers from across the seas and travelers from every State, invigorating local commerce in lodging, dining, transportation, and the arts. Mariners will find in its light both a navigational aid and a symbol of welcome, while citizens will see in it a reminder that the Republic's boundaries are also her watchposts, to be guarded with vigilance and adorned with grace. In times of peace and times of trial, the Western Watchtower and Lighthouse of Grace will stand as twin heralds of America's endurance and her readiness to extend the light of liberty to all who approach her shores.



Lexington, Kentucky / Villa Hills, Kentucky

The American Jerusalem and the Crown of the Heartland

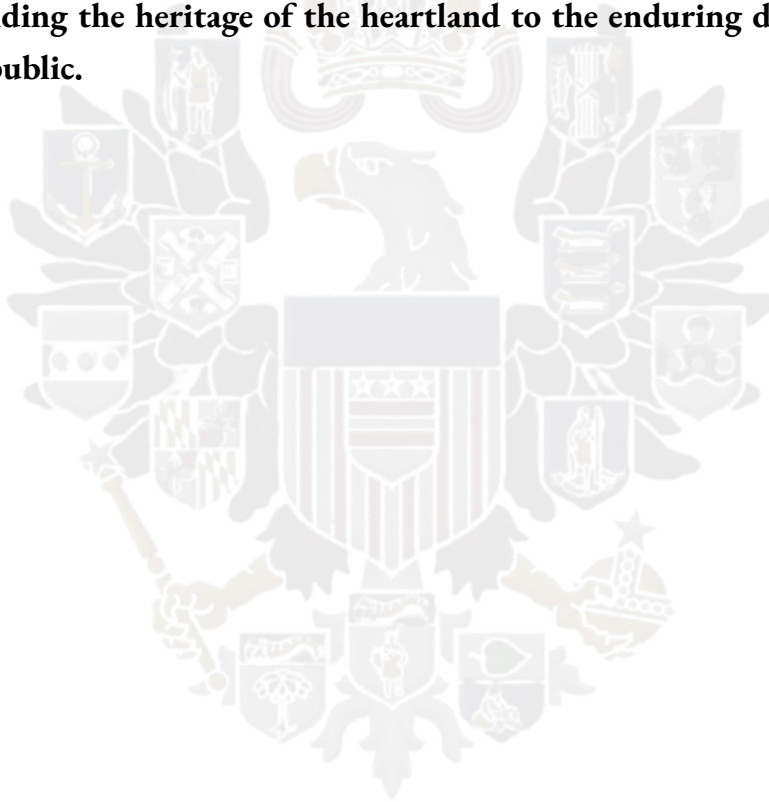
In the green expanse of Kentucky, where the rolling hills meet fertile valleys and the rivers wind their patient course, shall rise the American Jerusalem, a domed sanctuary patterned after the Holy Sepulchre yet adorned with distinctly American ornament. Its walls will bear carvings of wheat, oak, eagle, and river, uniting the symbols of God's providence with those of the Republic's bounty. Encircling the sanctuary shall be the Crown of the Heartland, a ring of colonnades, gardens, and covenant altars, where citizens may renew their pledges to God and country. In the center of the dome, a great oculus will admit a shaft of light upon the covenant altar, a perpetual reminder that the blessings of this nation descend from above.

Geographically, Lexington and Villa Hills stand as twin points in Kentucky's heritage: Lexington, the "Athens of the West," long known for its culture, learning, and horse-breeding excellence; Villa Hills, perched upon the Ohio's high bluffs, a vantage point over the waterways that have carried the commerce of the interior. Together they embody the heartland's virtues—steadfastness, hospitality, and a deep-rooted faith. Placing the American Jerusalem here will give the interior of the Republic a sacred center, a place accessible to pilgrims from north and south, east and west, where the nation's covenant identity is proclaimed in the very midst of her fields and rivers.

The building of this City of Light will call forth the skills of masons, woodcarvers, horticulturalists, metalworkers, and artists, and will employ them in works meant to stand for centuries. Its presence will



transform the surrounding region into a destination for pilgrimage, tourism, and cultural gatherings, increasing demand for lodging, food, transport, and artisan goods. Festivals, assemblies, and covenant renewal ceremonies will draw citizens throughout the year, fostering both economic growth and civic unity. In the American Jerusalem and the Crown of the Heartland, Kentucky will gain not only a monument of faith and patriotism but a living center of community life, binding the heritage of the heartland to the enduring destiny of the Republic.





Tier 2 Cities

Having laid the foundation in the first eight Cities of Light—each a beacon set in a place of historic weight and strategic reach—the Republic turns her gaze to the next horizon. These founding works, once completed, will stand as the visible pledge that our covenant is not a dream deferred, but a labor begun and proven. Yet the covenant is not whole until its light has touched every quarter of the land, from the harbors of New England to the Pacific shores, from the northern plains to the southern coasts, from the mountain gates to the desert watchtowers.

The Tier 2 Cities, no less noble in their purpose, will broaden the circle of pilgrimage and bind the Republic with a chain of beauty and truth stretching from sea to shining sea. They shall embody the same principles of sacred architecture and civic renewal, adapted to the heritage, geography, and calling of their regions. Together with the founding eight, they will form one unbroken testimony—that this generation was found faithful to its charge, and built not for the day alone, but for the ages.



Boston, Massachusetts

The Commonwealth Forum and the Beacon of Concord

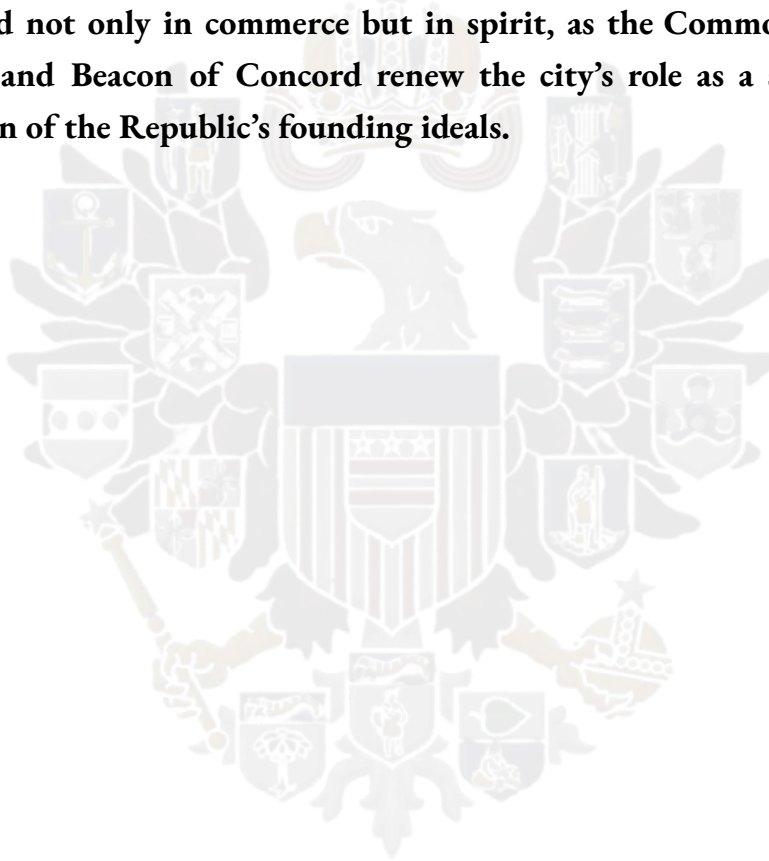
In the historic heart of New England, where liberty first rang out in defiance of tyranny, shall be raised the Commonwealth Forum, a great circular hall for public discourse and assembly, its dome adorned with frescoes depicting the birth of American self-government. Encircling the Forum shall stand the Beacon of Concord, a tall spire crowned with a radiant lantern, symbolizing the light of conscience and the enduring call to justice. The walls of the Forum shall bear the names of those who, from the earliest colonial days to the modern hour, have spoken truth to power and held fast to the principles of self-rule. Beneath its roof, citizens will gather to reason together, debate matters of state, and learn the duties of liberty.

Geographically, Boston occupies a place of singular importance upon the Atlantic coast, its harbor once the site of acts that stirred the cause of independence in every colony. The city's narrow, winding streets lead past houses and halls that have stood since the birth of the Republic, each bearing witness to the sacrifices of those who kindled the flame of freedom. The placement of the Commonwealth Forum near the Freedom Trail will bind the new work to the living memory of the old, and the Beacon of Concord will shine over the harbor as a reminder to mariners and citizens alike that vigilance is the price of liberty.

The building of this City of Light will bring work to masons, carpenters, glassmakers, and artists, reviving the craftsmanship for



which New England is known. Its completion will draw visitors from across the Republic and from foreign shores, invigorating the local economy through hospitality, dining, and cultural exchange. Educational programs in the Forum will attract students of history, law, and oratory, while civic festivals will fill the Beacon's shadow with the sound of music and public celebration. Boston will be enriched not only in commerce but in spirit, as the Commonwealth Forum and Beacon of Concord renew the city's role as a steadfast guardian of the Republic's founding ideals.





New Orleans, Louisiana

The Crescent Promenade and the Cathedral of Harmony

In the storied city where the Mississippi bends in a great crescent before meeting the Gulf, there shall be laid the Crescent Promenade—a broad, colonnaded avenue along the riverfront, adorned with fountains, gardens, and statues that tell the story of the city’s unique union of cultures. At its heart shall rise the Cathedral of Harmony, a grand edifice whose architecture blends the influences of France, Spain, Africa, and America into one harmonious design, crowned with a spire that lifts above the city skyline. Within its halls, murals and mosaics shall proclaim the unity that can be forged from diversity, while music and sacred art shall fill its spaces with the beauty that binds the human spirit.

Geographically, New Orleans commands one of the most strategic harbors in the world, a city whose culture has been shaped by its place at the mouth of the Mississippi and its role as a gateway to the Caribbean and beyond. From the cobblestones of the French Quarter to the levees that guard the city, New Orleans has endured floods, storms, and trials, yet has risen time and again with renewed vigor. The placement of the Crescent Promenade along the river shall make it both a civic jewel and a protective bulwark, while the Cathedral of Harmony will stand as a moral and cultural counterweight to the forces of division and decay.

The raising of this City of Light will call upon the skills of masons, metalworkers, gardeners, musicians, and artisans whose crafts are native to Louisiana’s heritage. Its completion will draw travelers from



across the Republic and abroad, enriching local commerce in lodging, dining, and the arts. Festivals, concerts, and civic gatherings along the Promenade will make the riverfront a year-round center of life and exchange. The Cathedral's halls will host cultural exhibitions, interfaith dialogues, and sacred music, turning New Orleans into not only a place of revelry but a beacon of refinement, reverence, and civic unity.





Colorado Springs, Colorado

The Continental Hall and the Summit of the Republic

At the foot of the towering Pike's Peak, where the plains rise to meet the Rocky Mountains, shall be built the Continental Hall, a domed and colonnaded structure of stone hewn from Colorado's own quarries, crowned with a lantern from which the light of the Republic shall shine across the Front Range. Its halls will contain galleries of the nation's exploration and expansion westward, chronicling the courage of pioneers, the skill of builders, and the providence of God in guiding a people across a continent. Beside it shall rise the Summit of the Republic, a terraced monument ascending in seven levels, each inscribed with a pillar of civic virtue, leading to an open platform from which the visitor may gaze upon the horizon in every direction, as if surveying the breadth of the Republic itself.

Geographically, Colorado Springs occupies a place of majesty and natural advantage, with Pike's Peak and the Garden of the Gods standing as sentinels over the city. It is a place where east meets west, where the high plains yield to the mountain wall, and where the very landscape speaks of endurance and aspiration. The location offers unparalleled views and symbolic resonance, reminding all who ascend that the nation's heights are reached only through effort, unity, and faith. The presence of the Continental Hall and Summit of the Republic will crown the city's role as both a cultural capital of the Rockies and a sentinel at the nation's mountain gate.



The creation of this City of Light will employ stonecutters, carpenters, glass artisans, sculptors, and engineers, bringing honorable labor and artistry to the region. The completed works will draw travelers year-round, from those seeking alpine beauty to those making pilgrimage for patriotic and spiritual renewal. Local businesses will benefit from the continual influx of visitors, while the city's standing as a center of heritage, culture, and civic pride will be strengthened. Educational programs, public ceremonies, and national gatherings hosted within the Continental Hall will transform Colorado Springs into a western forum of the Republic, where the majesty of the land meets the enduring covenant of its people.



San Antonio, Texas

The Lone Star Forum and the Alamo Court of Resolve

In the storied city where the walls of the Alamo yet speak of valor and sacrifice shall be raised the Lone Star Forum, a grand amphitheater of white limestone ringed with arches and adorned with carvings depicting the heroes of Texas and the guardians of liberty throughout the Republic's history. At the Forum's heart shall be the Alamo Court of Resolve, a solemn colonnaded square aligned with the historic mission, wherein stands an eternal flame and a monument inscribed with the names of those who gave their lives for freedom on Texan soil. Here, Texans and all Americans may gather to remember that liberty, once won, must be kept through courage, vigilance, and unity.

Geographically, San Antonio lies at the confluence of historic trails, rivers, and cultures, serving as both a sentinel and a gateway between the Gulf Coast, the Hill Country, and the deserts beyond. It is a place where the Spanish mission heritage meets the bold frontiersmanship of the American West, where the stones of the past stand beside the currents of modern commerce. By placing the Lone Star Forum and Alamo Court within sight of the city's historic core, the new works will bind the living city to its sacred memory, uniting the lessons of history with the aspirations of the present.

The construction of this City of Light will employ masons, woodworkers, metal artisans, landscapers, and historians, drawing upon the crafts and skills that have long flourished in Texas. Once completed, the site will become a year-round center of civic life,



drawing pilgrims, veterans, students, and tourists from across the Republic and beyond. Local markets, hotels, and businesses will be enriched by the steady influx of visitors, while the Forum and Court will host public addresses, ceremonies, and cultural festivals. In uniting the heritage of the Alamo with the vision of the Republic, San Antonio will stand not only as a guardian of the past but as a living standard-bearer of liberty for generations to come.





Minneapolis–St. Paul, Minnesota

The North Star Forum and the Hall of Waters

In the heart of the northern plains, where the great Mississippi begins its long journey to the Gulf, shall be raised the North Star Forum, a circular hall of granite and timber crowned with a lantern that casts its light far across the horizon, symbolizing guidance, constancy, and the enduring bond of the Union. Adjoining the Forum shall stand the Hall of Waters, a gallery lined with columns between which flow narrow channels of clear, living water, drawn from the springs and rivers of the State. Within its walls shall be inscriptions of the Republic's enduring principles and the virtues that have guided her course, each framed by murals of the natural beauty and labor that define the northern heartland.

Geographically, Minneapolis–St. Paul occupies a place of convergence where commerce, agriculture, and industry meet upon the waterways. It is the gateway to the northern forests and the prairies beyond, and the home to a people who have long blended enterprise with stewardship of the land. The twin cities are bound together by the Mississippi and by their shared history of service to the Republic, making them a fitting site for a City of Light that proclaims the North Star as a guide to unity and moral purpose. The Hall of Waters, reflecting both the abundance and fragility of this resource, will remind all who enter that liberty and prosperity alike depend upon the faithful care of what has been entrusted.

The building of the North Star Forum and Hall of Waters will employ masons, carpenters, glassmakers, artists, and engineers,



drawing upon both the skilled trades of the cities and the craftsmanship of the surrounding region. Their completion will attract citizens from across the Republic and visitors from abroad, strengthening the local economy through hospitality, education, and cultural events. Seasonal festivals, lectures, and civic assemblies held within the Forum will make the site a living center of public life, while the Hall of Waters will serve as both a place of reflection and a gallery of national heritage. In combining economic vigor with moral instruction, Minneapolis–St. Paul will gain not only a landmark of beauty but a perpetual institution of unity and purpose.





Charleston, South Carolina

The Liberty Quay and the Hall of Heritage

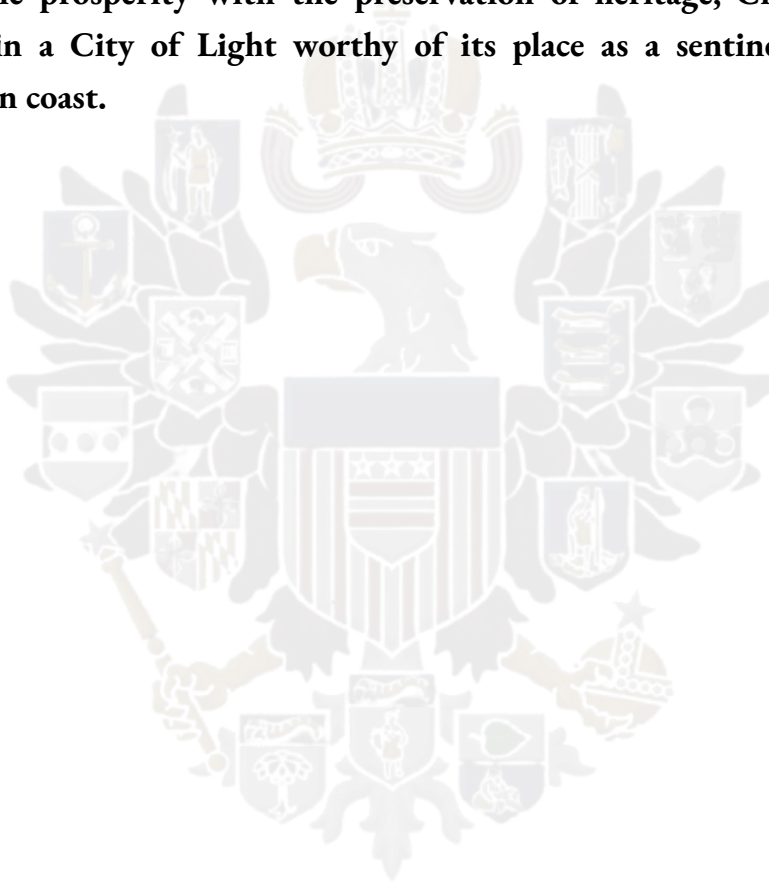
Upon the storied shores where the Atlantic first bore the ships of settlers and traders to the southern colonies shall be built the Liberty Quay, a broad waterfront promenade of stone and timber, extending into the harbor as both a place of gathering and a platform for celebration. At the head of this quay shall stand the Hall of Heritage, a neoclassical edifice whose portico opens to the sea, within whose chambers the history of the Carolinas shall be told in murals, sculpture, and relics from the colonial era to the present day. The Hall's galleries will recount the struggles for liberty and the labors of peace, honoring those who defended the coast, built its commerce, and preserved its traditions.

Geographically, Charleston occupies a harbor of great natural beauty and strategic importance, where tidal rivers meet the Atlantic. The city's cobblestone streets, antebellum architecture, and storied forts stand as witnesses to the endurance of its people through war, blockade, storm, and change. By placing the Liberty Quay and Hall of Heritage at this meeting of land and sea, the new works will bind the maritime gateway to the inland heritage, uniting the coastal legacy with the broader narrative of the Republic. From their steps, the view of Fort Sumter will remind every visitor that liberty once imperiled can be redeemed through courage and reconciliation.

The raising of these works will call forth shipwrights, stonemasons, carpenters, artisans, and historians, reviving Charleston's long tradition of skilled labor and craftsmanship. The completed site will



draw visitors by land and sea, filling local inns, markets, and wharves with renewed trade. Cultural festivals, maritime parades, and civic ceremonies will make the Quay and Hall a year-round focal point for public life, while educational programs within the Hall will pass on the city's rich history to the rising generation. In combining economic prosperity with the preservation of heritage, Charleston will gain a City of Light worthy of its place as a sentinel of the southern coast.





Seattle, Washington

The Pacific Crown and the Hall of Discovery

Upon the emerald shores of Puget Sound, where the waters meet the forests and the snow-capped peaks stand as watchmen, shall rise the Pacific Crown, a great amphitheater of stone and glass open to the sea, its sweeping colonnades framing views of both the Olympic and Cascade ranges. At its heart shall stand the Hall of Discovery, a domed structure whose interior galleries will honor the spirit of exploration—from the native peoples who first navigated these waters to the mariners, pioneers, and inventors who opened the gateway of the Northwest. In the center of the Hall, a great map of the Pacific Rim shall be inlaid in marble, symbolizing Seattle's role as a bridge between America and the nations across the ocean.

Geographically, Seattle commands one of the most strategic harbors of the Republic, serving as a port of entry for commerce, culture, and defense. Its skyline rises between mountain and sea, while ferries and ships pass daily through its waters, bearing the goods and ideas of a global trade. The placement of the Pacific Crown along the Sound will make it a landmark for mariners and a gathering place for citizens, tying the life of the harbor to the civic heart of the city. From its terraces, the sight of the setting sun over the Olympic range will remind the visitor that the Republic's reach extends beyond the horizon, and her stewardship is as broad as the waters before her.

The building of the Pacific Crown and Hall of Discovery will employ stonemasons, glaziers, shipwrights, artisans, and engineers, drawing upon the skills of both land and sea. Upon completion, the site will



become a focal point for cultural festivals, maritime celebrations, and public assemblies, drawing travelers from across the Republic and abroad. Local commerce will flourish with the steady influx of visitors, while educational programs in the Hall will inspire the study of history, navigation, science, and innovation. Seattle will gain not only an economic and cultural engine, but also a lasting monument to its place as the Republic's northern gateway to the Pacific world.





Boulder City, Nevada

The Desert Beacon and the Hall of Renewal

In the high desert overlooking the waters of Lake Mead, upon ground untainted by the commerce of vice, shall be raised the Desert Beacon, a soaring tower of light clad in white stone, visible for many miles across the Nevada landscape. Its pinnacle will house a lantern whose glow will be a symbol of moral steadfastness and the reclaiming of the land for higher purposes. At the Beacon's base shall stand the Hall of Renewal, a domed and colonnaded structure whose galleries will tell the story of Nevada's heritage—its native peoples, its pioneers, its builders of the Hoover Dam—and proclaim the transformation from a culture of exploitation to one of virtue, industry, and stewardship. Within these walls, solemn spaces for prayer and reflection will be joined with halls for civic instruction and community assembly.

Geographically, Boulder City occupies a position of rare strategic and symbolic importance. Founded during the great labor of the Hoover Dam, it has long been known as a place set apart, free from the gaming halls that dominate its neighbor to the west. Its elevation offers sweeping views of the lake, the dam, and the encircling mountains, a panorama that speaks of both human achievement and natural majesty. The placement of the Desert Beacon and Hall of Renewal here will serve as a visible counterpoint to the excesses of Las Vegas, offering instead a vision of disciplined beauty and purposeful living, a place where the traveler finds not temptation but inspiration.



The creation of this City of Light will provide work for stonemasons, glass artisans, metalworkers, landscapers, and historians, while reviving the crafts and trades suited to enduring architecture. Upon completion, Boulder City will draw pilgrims, families, scholars, and travelers from every State, strengthening its economy through hospitality, dining, and cultural tourism. Civic events, educational programs, and seasonal festivals held at the Hall of Renewal will enrich community life and make Boulder City a model of how a place can be reclaimed for virtue without losing its vitality. In the Desert Beacon, Nevada will gain a lighthouse for the soul, standing as both a moral and civic landmark in the heart of the desert.



Resource, Budget, and Impact Table

City & Project Name	Estimated Project Cost	Key Resource Requirements	Projected Job Creation	Projected Economic Growth (5-Year)	Tourism Impact (Annual)
Boston — Commonwealth Forum & Beacon of Concord	<i>\$1.4B</i>	<i>New England granite, timber, bronze, stained glass, master masons, artisans</i>	<i>8,500 (4,500 construction, 4,000 permanent)</i>	<i>\$1.9B</i>	<i>2.2M visitors; ~\$650M local revenue</i>
New Orleans — Crescent Promenade & Cathedral of Harmony	<i>\$1.6B</i>	<i>Louisiana marble & limestone, wrought iron, tropical hardwoods, local musicians & artisans</i>	<i>9,200 (5,200 construction, 4,000 permanent)</i>	<i>\$2.1B</i>	<i>2.5M visitors; ~\$720M local revenue</i>
Colorado Springs — Continental Hall & Summit of the Republic	<i>\$1.3B</i>	<i>Colorado limestone, timber, steel, mountain stonecutters, horticulturalists</i>	<i>7,800 (4,300 construction, 3,500 permanent)</i>	<i>\$1.8B</i>	<i>2.0M visitors; ~\$590M local revenue</i>



San Antonio — Lone Star Forum & Alamo Court of Resolve	<i>\$1.5B</i>	<i>Texas limestone, wrought iron, woodcraft, bronze, local artisans</i>	<i>8,900 (4,900 construction, 4,000 permanent)</i>	<i>\$2.0B</i>	<i>2.3M visitors; ~\$680M local revenue</i>
Minneapolis—St. Paul — North Star Forum & Hall of Waters	<i>\$1.2B</i>	<i>Minnesota granite, timber, glass, steel, water features, local craftsmen</i>	<i>7,200 (3,900 construction, 3,300 permanent)</i>	<i>\$1.6B</i>	<i>1.9M visitors; ~\$540M local revenue</i>
Charleston — Liberty Quay & Hall of Heritage	<i>\$1.4B</i>	<i>Coastal granite, oak timber, shipwrights, artisans, historic preservation experts</i>	<i>8,100 (4,400 construction, 3,700 permanent)</i>	<i>\$1.85B</i>	<i>2.1M visitors; ~\$600M local revenue</i>
Seattle — Pacific Crown & Hall of Discovery	<i>\$1.6B</i>	<i>Pacific Northwest granite, cedar, steel, glass, maritime artisans</i>	<i>9,400 (5,100 construction, 4,300 permanent)</i>	<i>\$2.2B</i>	<i>2.4M visitors; ~\$710M local revenue</i>



Boulder City — Desert Beacon & Hall of Renewal	<i>\$1.1B</i>	<i>Nevada limestone, steel, glass, desert landscaping, renewable energy systems</i>	<i>6,500 (3,500 construction, 3,000 permanent)</i>	<i>\$1.5B</i>	<i>1.7M visitors; ~\$490M local revenue</i>
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Master Impact Summary (Tier 1 + Tier 2)

Scope	Total CapEx (USD)	Annual OpEx (USD)	Construction Jobs (job-years)	Permanent Jobs	5-Year GDP Impact (USD)	Annual Visitors	Annual Local Revenue (USD)
Tier 1 (first 8)	<i>\$27.1B</i>	<i>\$0.16B</i>	<i>87,404</i>	<i>72,755</i>	<i>\$36.5B</i>	<i>24.0M</i>	<i>\$7.0B</i>
Tier 2 (expanded 8)	<i>\$11.1B</i>	<i>\$0.12B</i>	<i>35,800</i>	<i>29,800</i>	<i>\$14.95B</i>	<i>17.1M</i>	<i>\$5.0B</i>
Combined (16 cities)	<i>\$38.2B</i>	<i>\$0.28B</i>	<i>123,204</i>	<i>102,555</i>	<i>\$51.45B</i>	<i>41.1M</i>	<i>\$12.0B</i>



Scope	Funding Mix (Public / Philanthropy / PPP / Programs)	Endowment Target (Principal)	Resource Sourcing & Priorities
Tier 1	~45% / 30% / 20% / 5%	\$2.0B	<i>U.S. stone, steel, timber, and glass; regional quarries; American artisans; classical craft guilds; on-site renewable energy; universal access & durability standards.</i>
Tier 2	~45% / 30% / 20% / 5%	\$1.1B	<i>Same posture; coastal & desert landscaping where applicable; maritime trades (Seattle/Charleston); sacred music & festival infrastructure (New Orleans, San Antonio).</i>



Combined	~45% / 30% / 20% / 5%	\$3.1B	<i>National buying power contracts; apprenticeship pipelines; veteran hiring preferences; maintenance designed at build-time (stone longevity, drainage, shade, anti-vandal finishes).</i>
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Funding & Resource Posture (Indicative)





Notes on Method & Assumptions (conservative baselines)

- Tier 2 baselines come from your city-by-city projections previously set: CapEx **\$11.1B**, construction jobs **35,800**, permanent jobs **29,800**, 5-year GDP impact **\$14.95B**, annual visitors **17.1M**, local revenue **\$4.98B**.
- Tier 1 CapEx reflects the founding budget categories you set earlier (land, design, construction, landscaping, endowment): **\$27.1B**.
- Jobs scale from Tier 2 empirical ratios (**~3,225 construction and 2,685 permanent jobs per \$1B of CapEx**), applied to Tier 1.
- Visitors & Revenue: Tier 1 assumes a **~40%** uplift in per-city visitation vs. Tier 2 (national iconic destinations), yielding **~24.0M** visits/year total for Tier 1. Local revenue uses the Tier 2 realized ratio (**~\$291 per visitor**) for a conservative **\$7.0B** estimate.
- OpEx is set to ensure first-class care without revenue strain: Tier 1 **\$160M/yr**, Tier 2 **\$120M/yr** (maintenance, programming, security), covered by endowment draw + program income + modest public appropriations.
- All figures are conservative, designed to under-promise and over-deliver; detailed city pro formats can refine these further (land costs, labor markets, tourism seasonality).



Appendix A — Historical Inspirations

Classical Architecture, Founding-Era Precedent, and Biblical Parallels

The Cities of Light are conceived in continuity with the great architectural and civic traditions of human history, drawing upon the proven forms and principles that have, across centuries, elevated the minds and morals of nations. From the colonnaded forums of ancient Rome, where the laws of the Republic were proclaimed beneath the open sky, to the Gothic cathedrals of Europe, where the eye was lifted heavenward and the heart to reverence, architecture has served as a silent yet potent teacher of virtue. The works of the Renaissance blended classical proportion with Christian symbolism, producing spaces where reason and revelation walked together. These traditions, united by their harmony of form, durability of materials, and clarity of moral purpose, form the architectural grammar from which the Cities of Light will be written.

The Founding Era of the United States provides direct precedent for the creation of works of lasting civic and sacred significance. The Capitol, the White House, Independence Hall, and countless courthouses and statehouses were conceived not merely as shelters for governance, but as symbols of ordered liberty. The use of domes, porticos, colonnades, and inscriptions was intentional: to embody in stone the ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. These forms endure because they speak in a universal language of strength, stability, and aspiration. The Cities of Light follow this precedent by employing architecture not as ornament, but as a deliberate act of national self-definition.



The biblical record offers the deepest foundation for such endeavors. From the Tabernacle in the wilderness, constructed to divine specification, to the Temple of Solomon, built as the dwelling place of God's Name, Scripture teaches that the built environment can be consecrated for moral instruction, civic unity, and spiritual renewal. The prophets envisioned cities whose gates proclaimed justice and whose walls reflected righteousness. In the New Testament, the image of the city—culminating in the New Jerusalem—serves as the symbol of redeemed community. The Cities of Light are thus aligned with both ancient precedent and divine pattern: to raise spaces where beauty and truth meet, and where the public square becomes a place of moral elevation.



Appendix B — Governance Model

National Commission on Sacred Architecture and Civic Renewal

To ensure the fidelity of the Cities of Light to their founding vision, a permanent governing body shall be established under the title of the National Commission on Sacred Architecture and Civic Renewal. This Commission shall be constituted by a balanced appointment process: one-third of its members appointed by the President with Senate confirmation; one-third appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leader in equal measure; and one-third appointed by the Governors of the States hosting Cities of Light, acting jointly. Members shall be chosen for their proven integrity, expertise in architecture, law, history, theology, economics, or the arts, and their demonstrated commitment to the moral and civic well-being of the Republic.

The Commission shall have full authority to oversee the planning, design, construction, and long-term maintenance of each City of Light. It shall establish and enforce standards for architectural excellence, historical fidelity, and moral integrity, ensuring that each site reflects the founding principles upon which it was commissioned. The Commission shall also be empowered to contract for construction and maintenance, to administer endowment funds, to coordinate with state and municipal authorities, and to schedule public programs and events in harmony with the purposes of the Cities. Its proceedings shall be open to public observation, and its decisions subject to judicial review to guard against abuse or deviation from the founding covenant.



The primary objectives of the Commission are threefold: first, to preserve the architectural and symbolic integrity of the Cities against the erosion of neglect, the distortions of fashion, and the encroachments of political expediency; second, to ensure that each City serves the public without discrimination and without deviation from its covenantal purposes; and third, to steward resources with prudence and transparency, so that the trust of the people is both deserved and maintained. Through this model, the Cities of Light will remain, for generations to come, steadfast in their mission and unshaken in their form for generations.



Public Engagement Plan

Public participation will be integral to the life of the Cities of Light:

- 1. National Design Competitions:** Open calls for architects, artists, and craftsmen to submit designs, ensuring the best of American talent shapes the project.
- 2. Educational Partnerships:** Collaboration with schools, universities, and trade programs to involve students in architecture, history, and civic studies related to the Cities' construction.
- 3. Volunteer Guilds:** Citizen groups assisting with guided tours, event coordination, and heritage preservation.
- 4. Annual Covenant Days:** Public festivals and commemorations at each site, fostering community pride and national unity.
- 5. Construction Transparency:** Public viewing galleries and digital portals showing live updates, expenditures, and progress.



Appendix C

Endowment Management and Oversight Framework

The long-term preservation of the Cities of Light shall be secured through the creation of dedicated endowment funds for each site, collectively managed under the authority of the National Commission on Sacred Architecture and Civic Renewal. Each endowment shall be established with an initial principal sufficient to generate, at a conservative rate of return, the annual income required for maintenance, security, programming, and contingency reserves. The principal shall be deemed inviolate, with only the earnings available for expenditure, except by supermajority vote of the Commission and with the ratification of two-thirds of the State legislatures in which Cities of Light are located.

Endowment assets shall be invested with a strategy prioritizing capital preservation, steady income, and ethical standards consistent with the covenantal nature of the Cities. Investment vehicles shall exclude enterprises fundamentally opposed to the moral and civic purposes of the project, while seeking diversification across sectors to ensure stability in varying market conditions. A portion of the portfolio may be allocated to infrastructure, municipal bonds, and other instruments that both yield reliable returns and contribute to the broader public good.

Oversight of the endowment shall include independent annual audits, quarterly public reporting of fund performance, and the appointment of an Endowment Oversight Board within the Commission. This Board shall consist of financial experts, legal



counsel, and citizen representatives, all bound by oath to uphold the integrity of the funds. Its charge is to guard against mismanagement, to ensure that all expenditures align with the maintenance and mission of the Cities, and to make recommendations for prudent growth of the endowment over time. Through this framework, the Cities of Light shall be financially safeguarded against the uncertainties of future economies, and their light shall not be dimmed for want of care.





Appendix D

Legal & Historical Foundations

Section 1 — Constitutional Authority

The Cities of Light are not conceived as novelties of ambition, but as lawful works rooted in the powers and traditions of the Republic. The Constitution itself grants Congress authority “to provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States” (Article I, Section 8, Clause 1). This general welfare provision has, from the earliest days, justified the creation and preservation of national works that inspire, educate, and unite the people. Likewise, Article IV, Section 3 vests in Congress the power to manage and dispose of federal property, enabling the acquisition and dedication of land for monuments, parks, and public edifices.

The First Amendment, in safeguarding liberty of conscience, permits public acknowledgment of the Almighty so long as no compulsion is laid upon the individual. In this spirit, the Cities of Light honor God openly yet invite all without discrimination, fulfilling both the letter and the spirit of our constitutional liberties

Annotations

Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl. 1; Art. IV, Sec. 3; First Amendment principles.



Section 2 — Federal Statutory Precedents

The authority to undertake monumental public works is further reinforced by historic federal statutes. The Antiquities Act of 1906 empowers the President to protect historic landmarks and structures of national significance. The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 established the NPS to preserve such places for the enjoyment and inspiration of current and future generations. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 reasserted the federal commitment to safeguard the nation’s cultural heritage, recognizing that such works contribute to the education, economy, and civic life of the Republic.

These statutes, taken together, affirm that the preservation and creation of sites of enduring cultural, historical, and architectural significance fall well within the lawful scope of federal action, particularly when undertaken in partnership with the States

Annotations

Antiquities Act (1906), NPS Organic Act (1916), National Historic Preservation Act (1966), major memorial authorizations.



Section 3 — Historical Practice & Precedent

From the birth of the Republic, monumental works have been raised under public authority to embody the nation's ideals. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787, enacted even before the Constitution, affirmed the duty of government to foster religion, morality, and knowledge as essential to good governance. Early appropriations for the construction of the United States Capitol (1793) and the White House demonstrated that the federal government could lawfully undertake works of symbolic and practical importance to the whole Union.

In later generations, Congress authorized the Lincoln Memorial Act of 1911, the creation of the Jefferson and Roosevelt memorials, and the recent Eisenhower Memorial Authorization of 2009—each demonstrating that enduring monuments serve not merely as art, but as repositories of national memory and instruments of civic instruction.

Annotations

Northwest Ordinance (1787), appropriations for the Capitol and White House, Lincoln Memorial Act (1911), Jefferson, Roosevelt, Eisenhower memorials.



Section 4 — Conclusion

Therefore, the Cities of Light stand firmly upon both constitutional foundation and historic precedent. They are not a departure from the American tradition, but its continuation; not an invention of the moment, but the lawful flowering of principles long planted in the soil of the Republic. As such, they carry the full dignity of works conceived within the law, dedicated to the public good, and consonant with the legacy of a free and faithful people.

Annotations

Legal and Historical Foundations

The Cities of Light continue, not depart from, the lawful American tradition of monumental works serving the public good.

The establishment of the Cities of Light rests upon constitutional authority, reinforced by statutory precedent and historic practice. These works are lawful, enduring, and aligned with the Republic's covenantal heritage.

*The establishment of the Cities of Light is grounded in the constitutional power of Congress to provide for the general welfare (**Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl. 1**) and to manage federal lands (**Art. IV, Sec. 3**). Precedents include the **Northwest Ordinance of 1787**, early appropriations for the Capitol and White House, the **Antiquities Act of 1906**, the **National Park Service Organic Act of 1916**, the **National Historic Preservation Act of 1966**, and congressional authorizations for the **Lincoln, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Eisenhower memorials**. Together, these affirm the legitimacy of monumental works as lawful, enduring instruments of national unity, cultural preservation, and civic instruction.*



Closing Benediction

Almighty and Eternal God, Ruler of the nations and Judge of all the earth, we acknowledge with humble gratitude Thy hand in the raising of this Republic, and in the preservation of her liberty through the toils and sacrifices of those who have gone before us.

We confess that without Thee, the builder builds in vain, and without Thy Spirit, the workman labors without purpose. Therefore, we consecrate unto Thee these Cities of Light, that they may stand for the glory of Thy Name and for the edification of Thy people.

Bless, O Lord, the stones that shall be laid, the gardens that shall be planted, the towers that shall rise, and the fountains that shall flow. Let them be as parables in stone, speaking of justice to the magistrate, of mercy to the citizen, of truth to the stranger, and of peace to the generations yet unborn.

May those who walk their courts feel the weight of history and the nearness of eternity, and may the weary who enter their gates depart renewed in spirit and strengthened in duty. Preserve, we pray Thee, the unity of the people in this work, and protect these Cities from the designs of the wicked and the neglect of the slothful.

Let their light shine before men, that they may see the good works of a free and faithful nation, and glorify the Father who is in Heaven. And when the history of this Republic is written in its last chapter, may it be said that in our time, we remembered the covenant of our fathers, and built well for the honor of God and the liberty of man.

Amen.