



April 2007

The Grand Army Plaza Coalition (GAPCo), in partnership with the Project for Public Spaces (PPS), is proud to present the attached summary of findings from our March 10, 2007, Community Workshop entitled “Rethinking Grand Army Plaza”.

GAPCo invited community stakeholders from many different affinity groups—neighborhood residents, planning professionals, elected officials, and issue-oriented activists—to come together and discuss Grand Army Plaza. Under the leadership of PPS, 50 people, representing nearly as many stakeholder constituencies, participated in the Place Game, where they observed and assessed every element at work in the Plaza, brainstormed some creative solutions, and presented their thoughts.

These findings encompass every idea—great or small—that was expressed during the workshop. On pages 11 through 15, we summarize the major themes that emerged. Taken together, they comprise our long-term collective vision for Grand Army Plaza.

Going forward, GAPCo will continue working with such key stakeholders as the Heart of Brooklyn and its members, the local Community Boards, the City Council, the Department of Transportation, and the Park Slope Civic Council to devise practical ways to realize this vision.

In fact, the first step in this process has just been announced by the Department of Transportation. Their plan to add several crosswalks, raised islands, and traffic flow reconfigurations to the southeastern corner of Grand Army Plaza is in line with the vision expressed in our findings, and we applaud DOT’s attention, creative solutions and commitment to action. These changes are a great first step, as we build momentum for reshaping Grand Army Plaza into a great public space for the heart of Brooklyn.

On behalf of the members of GAPCo,

Robert Witherwax, GAPCo Coordinator