



**MURIEL BOWSER**  
**MAYOR**

May 14, 2021

The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Suite 504  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

Today, I am transmitting to the Council of the District of Columbia for its consideration and approval the "*African American Civil War Museum Installation of the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue Approval Resolution of 2021*". Please find enclosed a copy of the proposed resolution proposing a commemorative work; the installation of the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue at Grimke on the public space adjacent to the African American Civil War Museum (AACWM), located in the historic Archibald Grimke School at 1925 Vermont Avenue, NW.

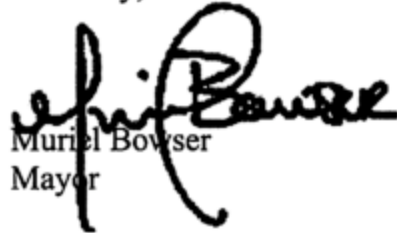
The Museum has filed the necessary paperwork to obtain a permit from the Department of Transportation (DDOT) to install the statue, and the Commemorative Works Committee voted on the matter at its April 30, 2021 meeting and recommended favorable disposition of the proposed statue in the public space adjacent to the African American Civil War Museum at 1925 Vermont Avenue NW.

As you are aware, the Duke Plan calls for the combining of the African American Civil War Memorial and the Grimke Development across Vermont Avenue to further create the African American Civil War Memorial Plaza. The AACWM is working with the District's Department of Transportation (DDOT) and Office of Planning to erect the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation statue which is designed to create a sightline across Vermont Avenue from the Memorial to the Museum at Grimke which is currently under construction. In July 2020, the statue was delivered to the museum for installation in front of the museum at Grimke where it will rest on a podium adorned by ceremonial steps.

For these reasons set forth above, I urge the Council to take prompt and favorable action on the enclosed resolution.


If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Andrew Trueblood, Director of the Office of Planning at (202) 442-7636.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muriel Bowser", written over the printed name and title.

Muriel Bowser  
Mayor

Enclosures

  
Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

A RESOLUTION

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To approve the installation of a commemorative work, to be known as the "Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue," on the public space adjacent to the African American Civil War Museum located at 1925 Vermont Avenue N.W..

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That  
this resolution may be cited as the "African American Civil War Museum Installation of the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue Approval Resolution of 2021".

Sec. 2. Pursuant to section 401 of the Street and Alley Closing and Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D.C. Official Code § 9-204.01) ("Act"), the Council approves the installation of a commemorative work, to be known as the "Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue," on public space adjacent to the African American Civil War Museum, located on the historic Archibald Grimke School at 1925 Vermont Avenue, N.W.

Sec. 3. Transmittal. The Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the Mayor and the African American Civil War Museum.

Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

33           The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as  
34   the fiscal impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures  
35   Act of 1975, approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-  
36   301.47a).

37           Sec. 5. Effective date.

38           This resolution shall take effect immediately.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KARL A. RACINE



Legal Counsel Division

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Ronan Gulstone  
Director  
Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs

**FROM:** Brian K. Flowers  
Deputy Attorney General  
Legal Counsel Division

**DATE:** May 14, 2021

**RE:** "African American Civil War Museum Installation of the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue Approval Resolution of 2021"  
(AE-21-898)

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**This is to Certify that** this Office has reviewed the resolution entitled the "African American Civil War Museum Installation of the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue Approval Resolution of 2021" and determined that it is legally sufficient. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 724-5524.

*Brian K. Flowers*  
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Brian K. Flowers


Government of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Fitzroy Lee  
Interim Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Fitzroy Lee  
Interim Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** May 14, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – African American Civil War Museum  
Installation of the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation  
Statue Approval Resolution of 2021

**REFERENCE:** Draft bill provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on May 14, 2021

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

**Background**

The bill authorizes the installation of a public art installation known as the Abraham Lincoln Spirit of Freedom Emancipation Statue at 1925 Vermont Avenue N.W., in front of the Grimke Building, as part of the African American Civil War Memorial Museum Grimke Development.<sup>1</sup>

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2024 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. There are no costs to the District; the installation is funded privately.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.afroamcivilwar.org/news-events/press-releases/206-african-american-civil-war-museum-grimke-school-redevelopment.html>