

# Colorado Springs Veterans Memorial Master Plan & Structural Assessment

## PARKS BOARD

April 13, 2023

# Project Background

- Members of the American Legion Post 5 noticed that, after over 50 years in existence, the condition of the Veterans Memorial have deteriorated: visible cracks in the monument and dilapidated pavement.
- Post 5 Commander made a formal presentation to City Council on September 14, 2021. City Council agreed that the memorial should be restored to the condition it deserves as such an important living memorial in Colorado Springs.

# Project Background

- City Council Member Tom Strand engaged Colorado Springs Parks to administer the rehabilitation project (PRCS had originally administered the Memorial construction in 1968).
- Parks Department hired Stream Landscape Architecture & Planning to complete a master plan, along with a structural assessment of the central monument performed by investigative structural engineers at Martin/Martin.

# Project Milestones & Timeline

## 1ST STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP WITH VETERANS GROUPS

gather ideas / vision



FEBRUARY 3, 2022

## 2ND PUBLIC MEETING

present design concept



APRIL 28, 2022

## PARKS BOARD / MASTER PLAN COMPLETION

issue master plan



APRIL 13, 2023

***TODAY!***

## CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS & BIDDING

design development



SUMMER & FALL 2023

## CONSTRUCTION FOLLOWED BY COMMEMORATION EVENT

consultant hired



2024

# Site Background & Memorial History



“American Legion to Spark Veterans New Memorial”

April, 1968



“Recreation Director Outlines Memorial Role in Park Plan”

May, 1968



“Huge Crowd Attends Veterans Memorial Dedication”

November 11, 1968



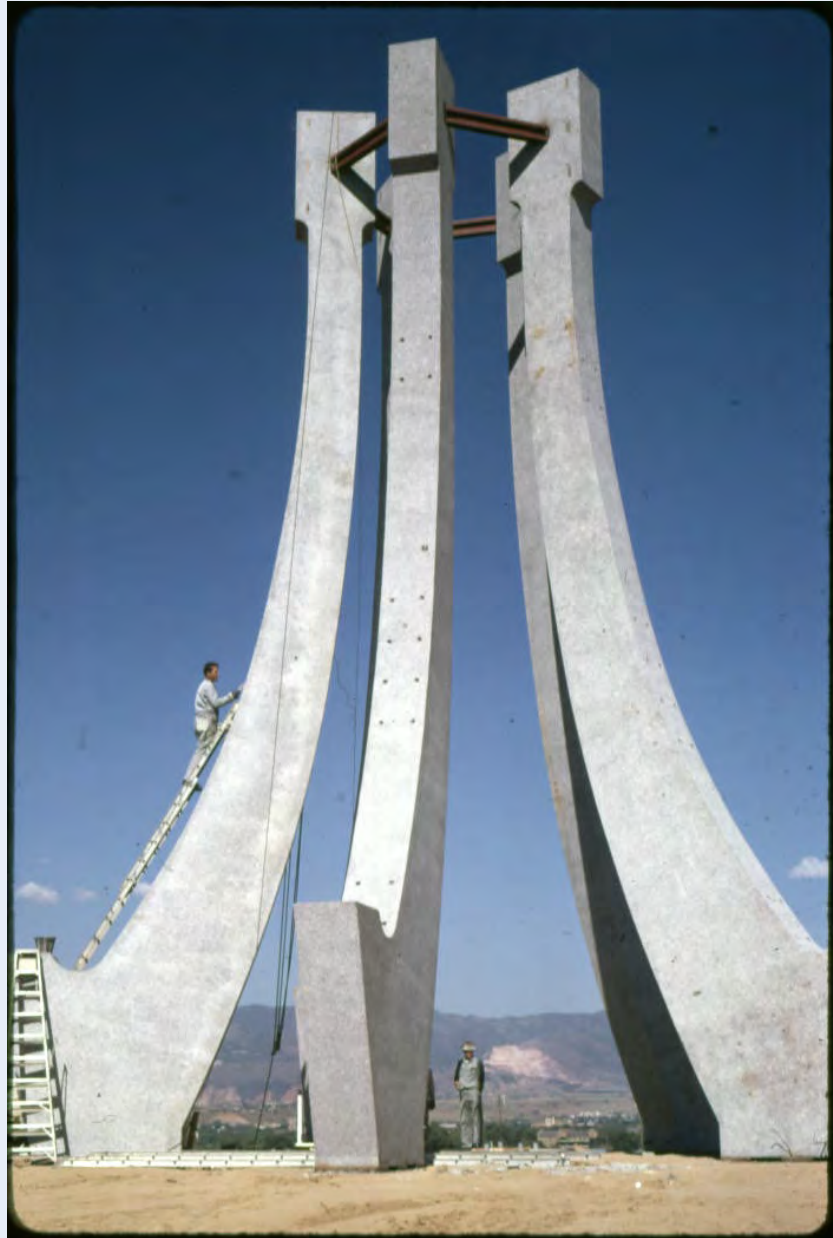
# Site Background & Memorial History



*The plaza, which will accommodate several thousand people, is to be beautified with landscaping that will provide screening from the recreation area of the park.*

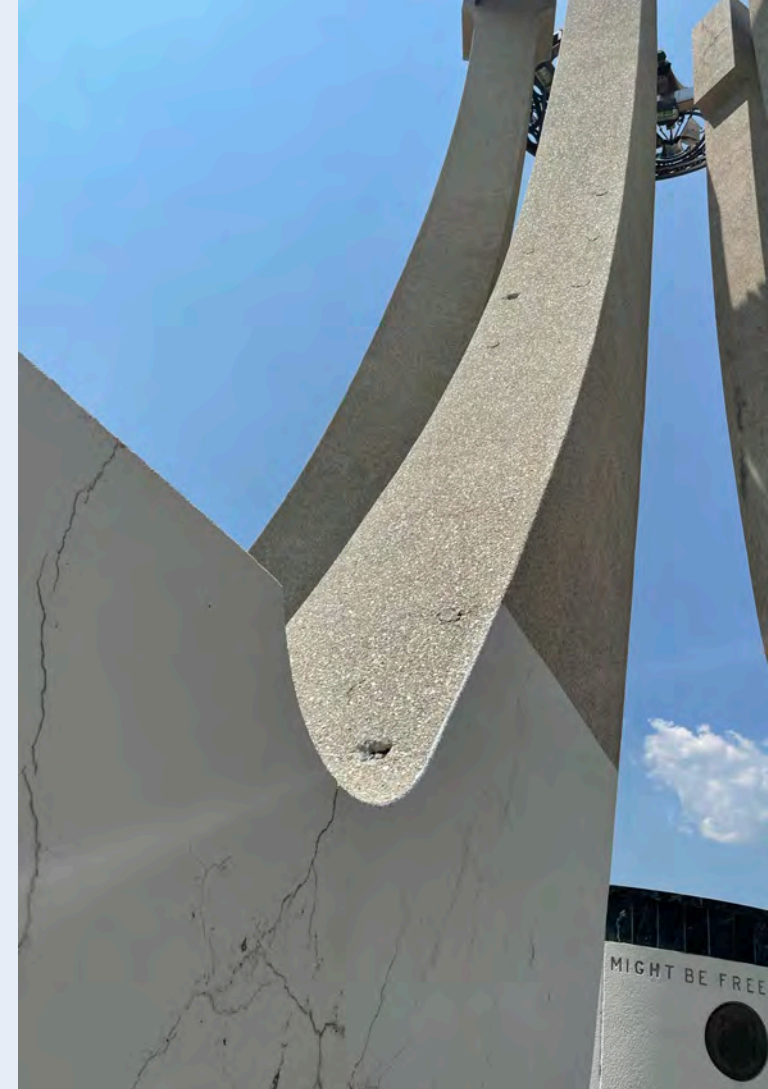
Colorado Springs  
Gazette, 1968

# Site Background & Memorial History





# Current Conditions: *Structure*





# Current Conditions: *Site / Plaza*





# Current Conditions: *Access & Entry*



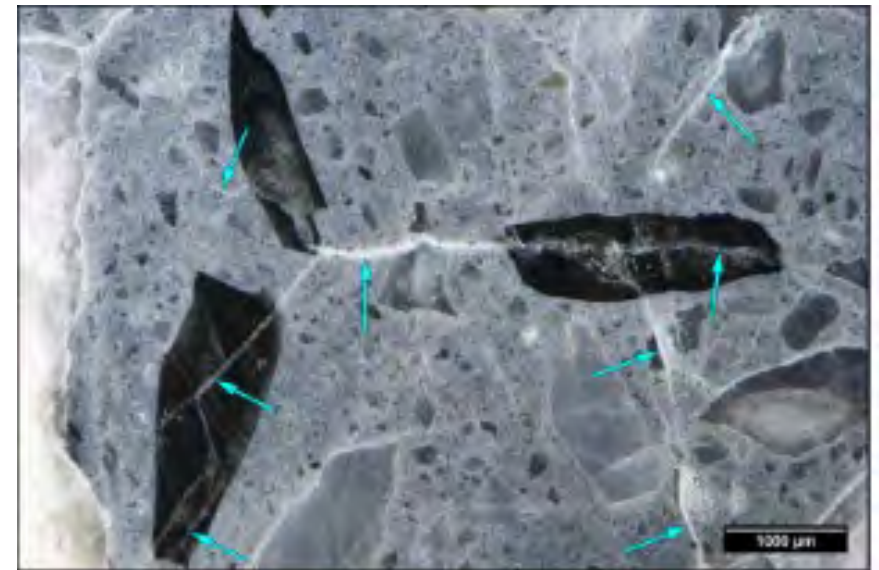
# Project Goals

- **STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY:** Rehabilitate the central monument structure and repair crumbling concrete paving and other dilapidated site features.
- **CIRCULATION & ACCESSIBILITY:** Allow for universal access to the memorial spaces for all visitors.
- **MAINTAINABLE & EXPANDABLE:** Enable future additional monuments in an organized overall design and ensure maintainability.
- **ENHANCED EXPERIENCE:** Flexible design to accommodate group events, solitary / contemplative experience, or both.



# *Structural Assessment: UPDATE*

- Initial Assessment Winter 2021/2022  
Follow-up January of 2023
- Concrete deterioration is due to a chemical reaction between the cement and the aggregate (ASR)
- ASR is triggered by presence of water
- On-going testing of limited samples indicates low potential for continued ASR



# *Structural Assessment: UPDATE*

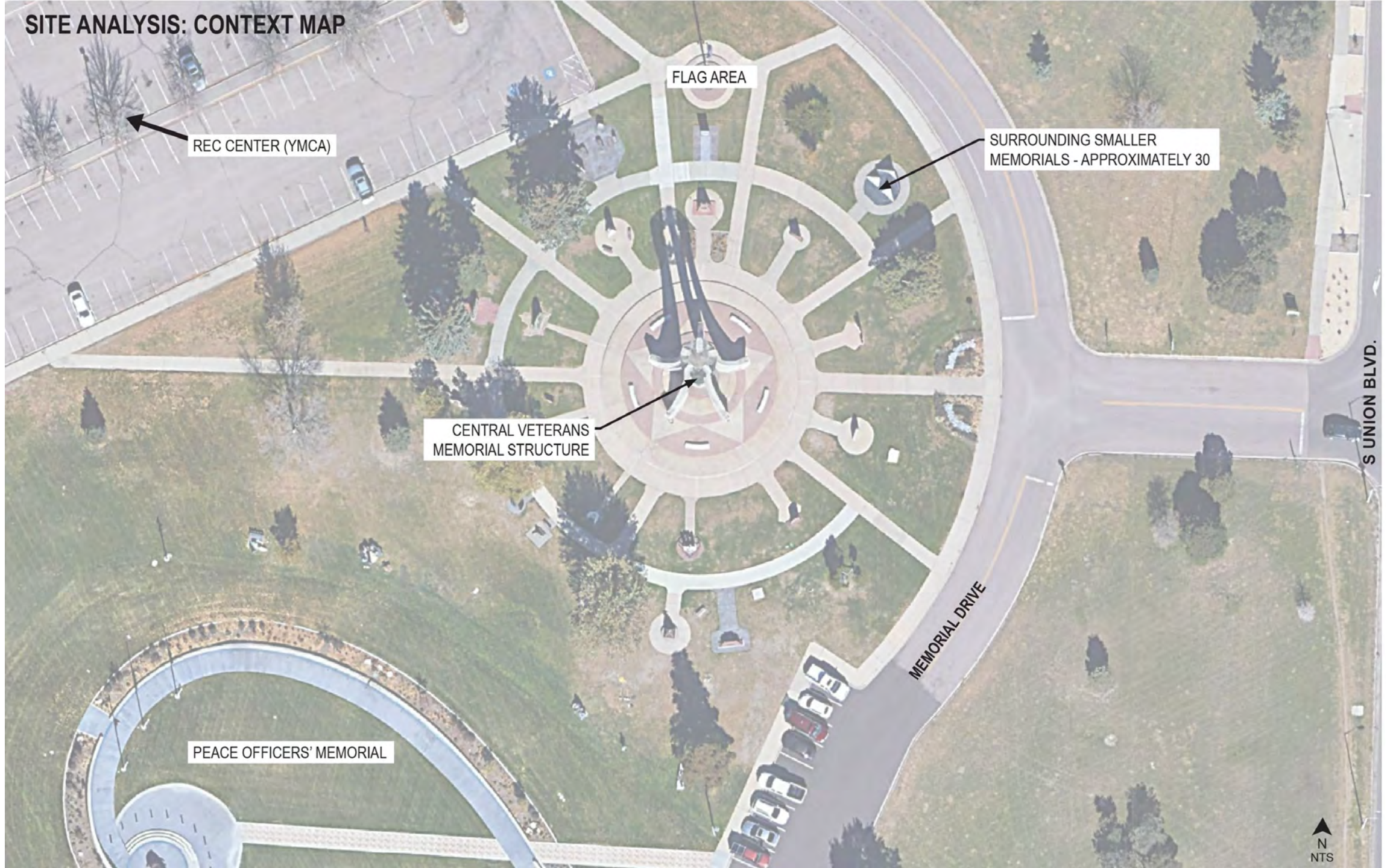
## Recommendations – Three Options

- Best: Replace the Concrete Columns
- Better: Repair damaged concrete and install weather protection including coatings and flashing. May extend the life of the structure up to 20 yrs. Will alter the appearance somewhat.
- Good: Repair damaged concrete in areas not visible. Install non-visible water repellent and flashing. May extend the life of the structure 10 years. Least impact on current appearance.





**SITE ANALYSIS: CONTEXT MAP**



REC CENTER (YMCA)

FLAG AREA

SURROUNDING SMALLER MEMORIALS - APPROXIMATELY 30

CENTRAL VETERANS MEMORIAL STRUCTURE

PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL

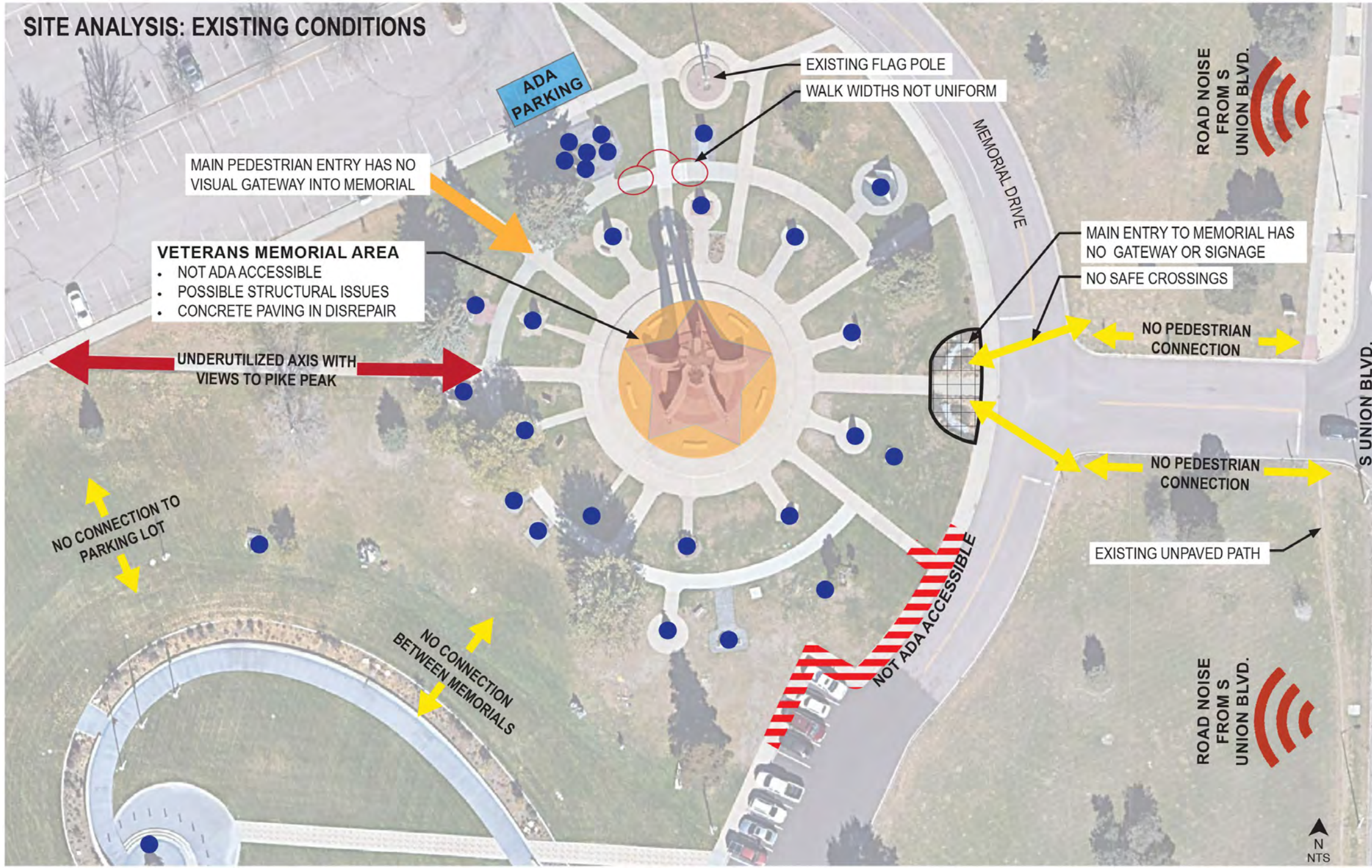
MEMORIAL DRIVE

S UNION BLVD.





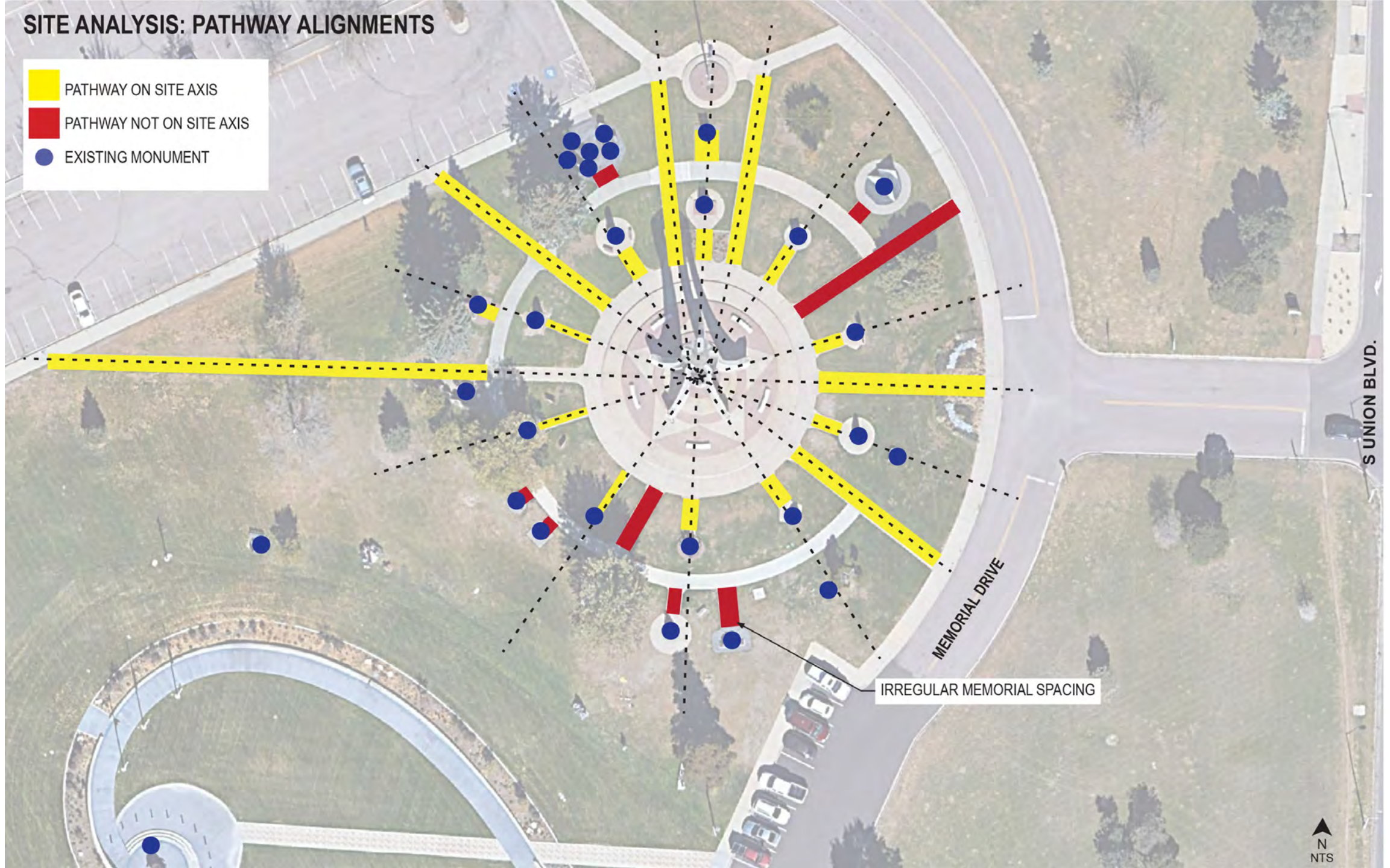
# SITE ANALYSIS: EXISTING CONDITIONS





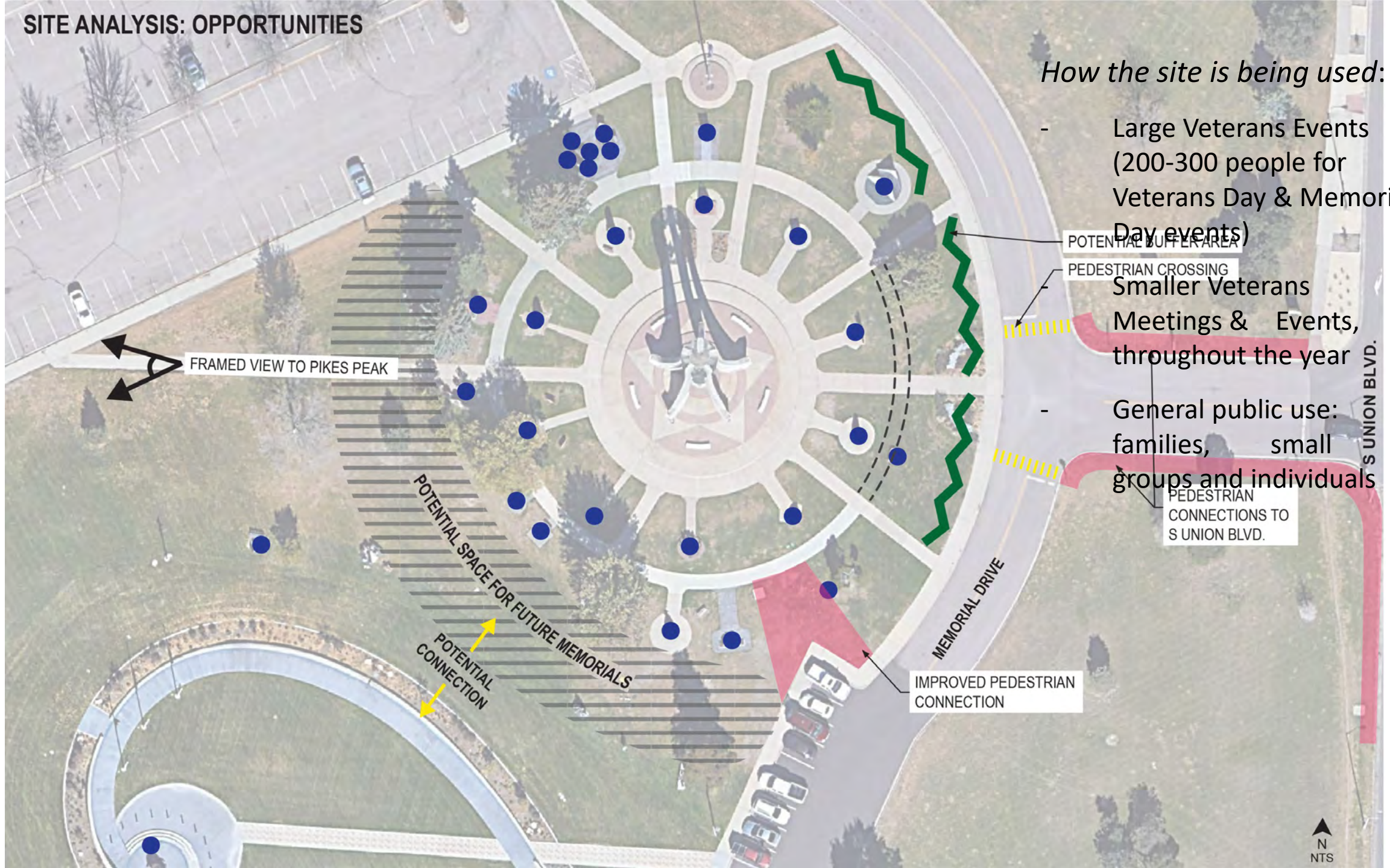
# SITE ANALYSIS: PATHWAY ALIGNMENTS

- █ PATHWAY ON SITE AXIS
- █ PATHWAY NOT ON SITE AXIS
- EXISTING MONUMENT





# SITE ANALYSIS: OPPORTUNITIES



*How the site is being used:*

- Large Veterans Events (200-300 people for Veterans Day & Memorial Day events)

Smaller Veterans Meetings & Events, throughout the year

- General public use: families, small groups and individuals

FRAMED VIEW TO PIKES PEAK

POTENTIAL SPACE FOR FUTURE MEMORIALS

POTENTIAL CONNECTION

POTENTIAL BUFFER AREA

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION

PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS TO S UNION BLVD.





# What We Heard at the Veterans Stakeholder Meeting

## *How the site is being used:*

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# What We Heard at the Veterans Stakeholder Meeting

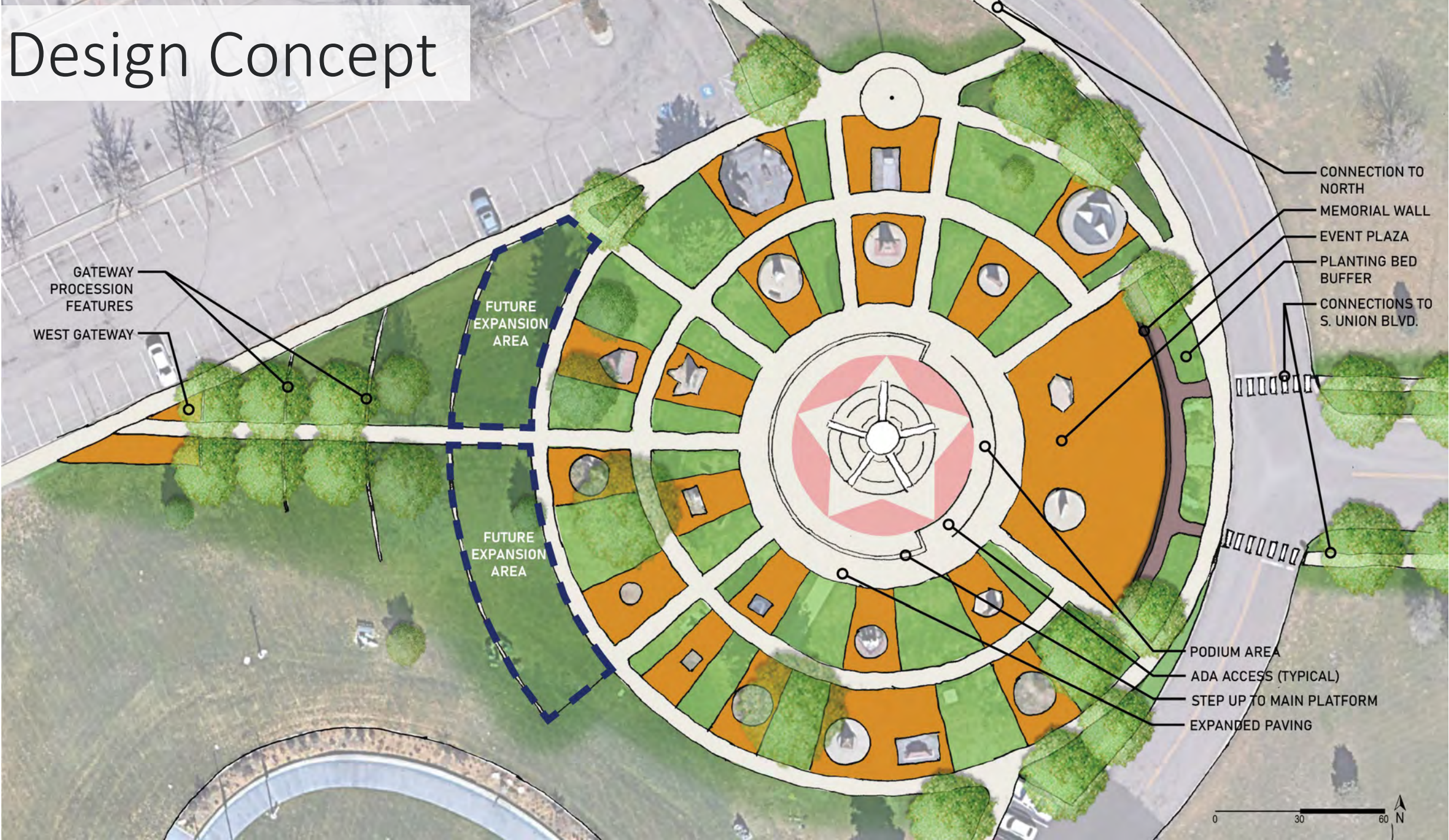
*How can this space serve Veterans and the public better?*

- Enlarge the accessible site area to accommodate events with greater accessibility for all
- Provide more seating
- Provide a design for flexible use: from large events to solitary, quiet experience





# Design Concept



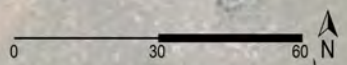
GATEWAY  
PROCESSION  
FEATURES  
WEST GATEWAY

FUTURE  
EXPANSION  
AREA

FUTURE  
EXPANSION  
AREA

CONNECTION TO  
NORTH  
MEMORIAL WALL  
EVENT PLAZA  
PLANTING BED  
BUFFER  
CONNECTIONS TO  
S. UNION BLVD.

PODIUM AREA  
ADA ACCESS (TYPICAL)  
STEP UP TO MAIN PLATFORM  
EXPANDED PAVING







VETERANS MEMORIAL





VETERANS  
MEMORIAL







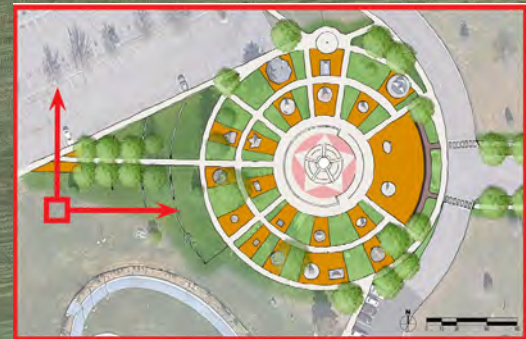
















VETERANS MEMORIAL



# Public Meeting Recap

Final Concept Presented  
on April 28, 2022

Attendees included:  
Veterans, Council Member  
Strand, Council Member  
Williams & news media.

Group expressed approval  
of the master plan and  
expressed no objection.





# Next Steps

**1ST STAKEHOLDER  
WORKSHOP WITH  
VETERANS GROUPS**

gather ideas / vision



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SUMMER & FALL 2023

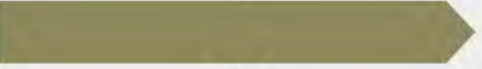
***NEXT***

**CONSTRUCTION  
FOLLOWED BY  
COMMEMORATION EVENT**

consultant hired



2024









# MEMORIAL IDENTIFICATION

- ① CLOCK TOWER MEMORIAL
- ② 104TH INFANTRY DIVISION "THE TIMBER WOLVES" MEMORIAL
- ③ CADET WING AND STAFF MEMORIAL
- ④ COLORADO SPRINGS VETERANS MEMORIAL
- ⑤ UNITED STATES AIR FORCE IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION MEMORIAL
- ⑥ 71ST INFANTRY DIVISION MEMORIAL
- ⑦ 89TH INFANTRY DIVISION AT CAMP CARSON MEMORIAL
- ⑧ PURPLE HEART MEMORIAL
- ⑨ FAC MEMORIAL
- ⑩ FAC NAMES WALL MEMORIAL
- ⑪ FAC BENCH MEMORIAL
- ⑫ FAC BENCH MEMORIAL
- ⑬ TACP MEMORIAL
- ⑭ MISTY MEMORIAL
- ⑮ CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES FORCES MEMORIAL
- ⑯ SPECIAL FORCES MEMORIAL
- ⑰ FREEDOM MEMORIAL
- ⑱ KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL
- ⑲ POW/MIA/EX-PRISONERS OF WAR MEMORIAL
- ⑳ VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL
- ㉑ AEROSPACE DEFENSE MEMORIAL
- ㉒ SUBMARINER MEMORIAL
- ㉓ MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
- ㉔ IN HONOR OF SAILERS & MARINES MEMORIAL
- ㉕ FT. CARSON FALLEN MEMORIAL
- ㉖ FUTURE SITE MEMORIAL
- ㉗ BUFFALO SOLDIERS MEMORIAL
- ㉘ WAR DOG MEMORIAL
- ㉙ PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL
- ⑩ UNKNOWN - TO BE CONFIRMED
- ⑪ FLAG POLE

②⑨

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