# **Expect the Unexpected**

Case Study - Pershing Park, Washington D.C.

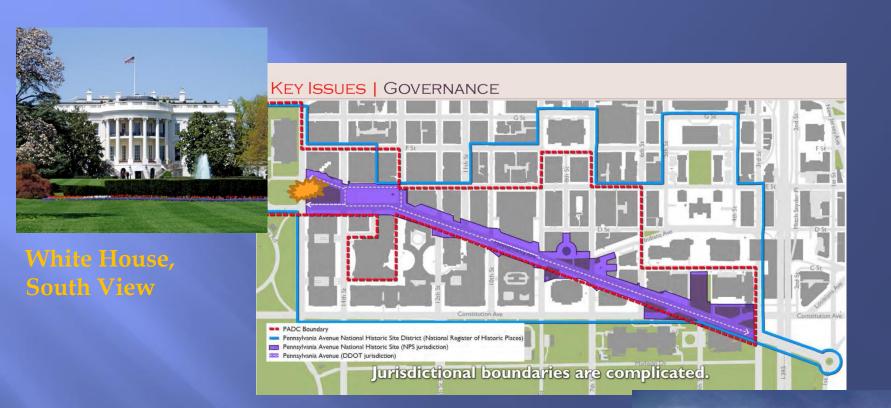
It started with a telephone call .....

"Hello, we'd like to adopt a park . . . . "

## The Ask – "We want to adopt Pershing Park"



#### Location, Location



The Capitol

#### The Real Ask ....

### **Sleuthing - What are the real interests?**

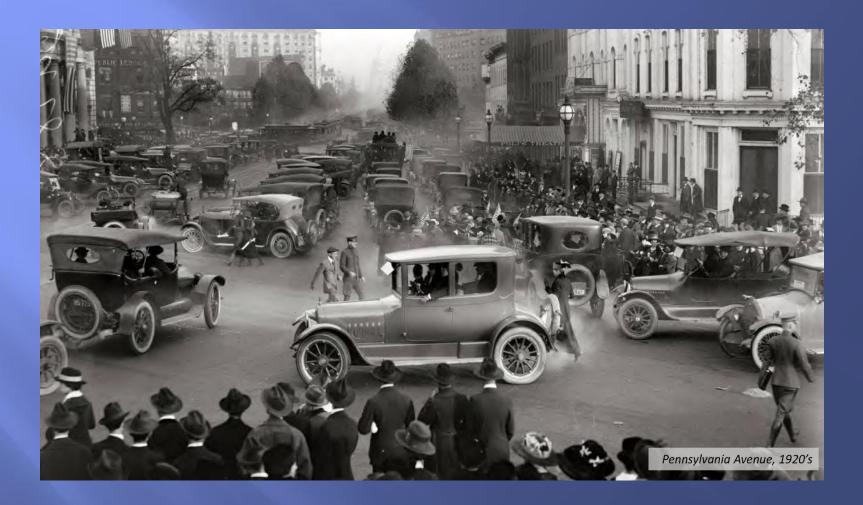




Congress – all 536 members plus 6 non-voting, share their ideas

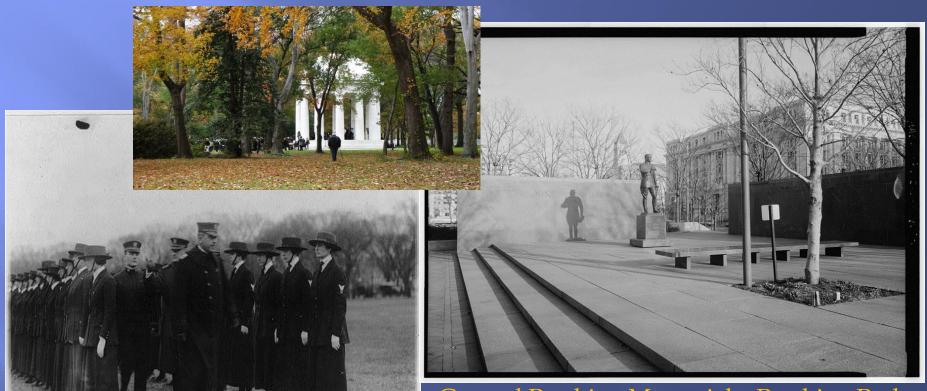


Fine Arts Committee – approve projects



Pennsylvania Avenue Planning Commission

#### The Players - Who they are and their interests . . . . . . . .



General Pershing Memorial - Pershing Park

World War I (about to be appointed) Commission



National Park Service - Partner to take on maintenance of Pershing Park

#### The Players - Who they are and their interests . . . . . . . .



Willard Hotel





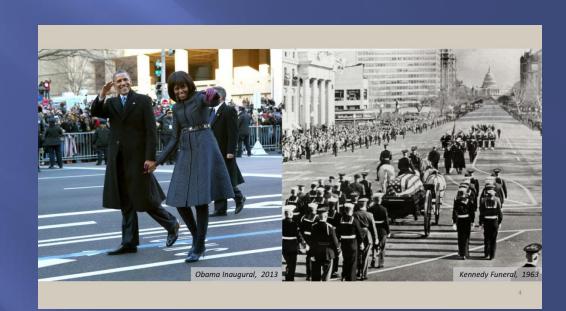
Trump and Carr - hotel interests

Old Post Office Tower

#### Re-Working the "Ask"

- Blues Alley Jazz Society now has a General Agreement with the park to engage youth and the community
- The Willard Hotel will provide VIPs
- Pershing Park will continue to be the front door to Pennsylvania Avenue

..... and the story continues



#### Lessons Learned .....

- Be a good listener
- Know your resource
- Be willing to ask lots of questions to find out the real "ask"
- Be politically aware
- Be flexible
- Hone your negotiation skills
- · And, have fun