



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

July 24, 2020

Board of Supervisors  
Mohave County  
2156 McCulloch Blvd. Unit 10  
Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403

Dear Board of Supervisors:

On July 3, 2020, President Donald J. Trump signed an Executive Order (EO) on Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes. Recently, many statues and monuments that preserve the memory of our collective American story have been vandalized, destroyed, or removed. President Trump has made clear that this Administration will not stand for anarchy and allow our Nation's history to be erased. We must preserve the story of America's heroes.

The President has directed me to lead a Task Force that will propose options for the creation of a National Garden of American Heroes, including potential locations for the site. The National Garden will feature the statues of the greatest Americans to ever live and express our noblest ideals: respect for our ancestors, love of freedom, and striving for a more perfect Union. These works of beauty, created as enduring tributes, will show reverence for our past, dignify our present, and inspire those who come to visit this majestic place in the future.

As outlined in the enclosed EO, the "National Garden should be located on a site of natural beauty that enables visitors to enjoy nature, walk among the statues, and be inspired to learn about great figures of America's history." The site should be proximate to at least one major population center and not cause significant disruption to the local community. My preference is that the site be on lands already in Federal ownership.

The Task Force will also develop a process for accepting donations or loans of statues and monuments by States, localities, civic organizations, businesses, religious organizations, and individuals for display at the National Garden of American Heroes. Statues and monuments will include the Founding Fathers, former Presidents of the United States, those who fought for the abolition of slavery, and other great Americans.

I ask that you respond to this letter in your capacity as county officials, and provide any recommendations that answer the following questions:

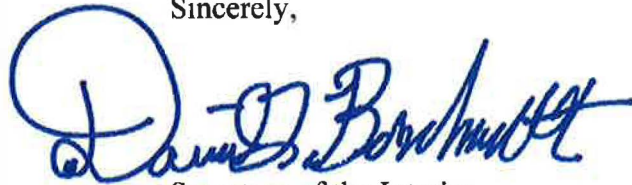
1. Are there locations of natural beauty within your unit of local government that would serve as a reputable location for these monuments, statues, and the National Garden of American Heroes? Please list and describe any such locations consistent with the EO.

2. Are there any statues or monuments your locality can donate or loan to this effort that will honor our nation's heroes? Please list and describe any such statues or monuments consistent with the EO.
3. In addition to the 31 individuals listed in the EO, are there any other American heroes who should be recognized in the National Garden of American Heroes? Please list and describe any such individuals consistent with the EO.

The Task Force intends to provide recommendations to the President expeditiously and would ask that you provide your response by July 31, 2020. Please send an electronic copy of your response to Mr. Jeffrey Small at [tjeffrey\\_small@ios.doi.gov](mailto:tjeffrey_small@ios.doi.gov).

America's heroes are embedded in our hearts and as a result of the President's leadership will forever be embedded in American history. This worthy and appropriate tribute to the legendary figures of the United States of America will transmit our national story to future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David D. Bonchuck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "B".

Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure