MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the City Commission

From: Lisa Agnor, City Manager

Date: April 22, 2016

Subject: Report regarding the status of the plans for the Harrison County Historical Museum Veterans Exhibit

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This item has been placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Mitchell. Attached is an update regarding the Veterans Exhibit from Janet Cook, Executive Director of the Harrison County Historical Museum.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 21, 2016

FROM: Harrison County Historical Museum, Janet Cook, Executive Director

TO: Marshall City Commission

SUBJECT: Update on Design of Military Exhibits at Memorial City Hall

On behalf of our Board of Directors, museum membership and the military community we are honoring with this exhibit we thank the City Commission and staff for working with us on this project. In my many years working on and studying downtown development and reuse of historic buildings, I see that this project is a shining example of a public-private partnership. All partners are bringing something to the plate to accomplish something good for the community we all serve. When this project is finished the Museum will have completed it's NEW Museum Plan adopted in 2006.

Following the September 2015 agreement between the Museum and City Commission to move the military exhibit from the third floor to the basement, we immediately began work adjusting to the new space. While we were disappointed with the change, we authorized the additional expenditure for exhibit designers to adjust the conceptual plans to fit into the new space. That adjustment was completed in December. The use of the second floor for rotating and traveling exhibits was not changed. We will use part of the space to tell local stories with rotating exhibits using our collection. An example of a traveling exhibit we will bring to Marshall is the Smithsonian Museum exhibit we hosted in 2014, visited by over 500 guests.

In December the Museum Board of Directors approved the $338,500 final design and fabrication contract for the military exhibits. Most of these funds are available through a $150,000 Federal grant. It was an honor for our project and our community to be selected to receive this grant. As volunteer executive director, I am contributing the value of my time as part of the Museum's required cost-share for this grant.

When the grant was awarded in November 2014 we had a deadline to complete the project in November 2016. Because of the change to the basement and the building construction schedule we will not meet that deadline. We have notified our granting agency that we will request a grant extension. We are allowed one extension. We will do that later this year in consultation with city staff regarding when Memorial City Hall construction will be completed.

We are rapidly moving forward on the design development phase of the project. We have been consulting with the city's architect and staff to coordinate our design with the building design. In design development phase the designers are matching artifacts with images and writing label text. Since December we have spent $26,000 on this phase making our project about 8% complete. After design development is finished the exhibit fabricators will start building the exhibit elements. That will begin late summer and take about six months. Installation will take about two months and will begin in first quarter 2017.

We will soon start planning our grand opening events for Memorial Day weekend 2017.

Attached are the exhibit floor plan and a list of the exhibit units.

SERVICE AND SACRIFICE: HARRISON COUNTY AT WAR
FLOOR PLAN KEYED TO EXHIBIT UNIT LIST

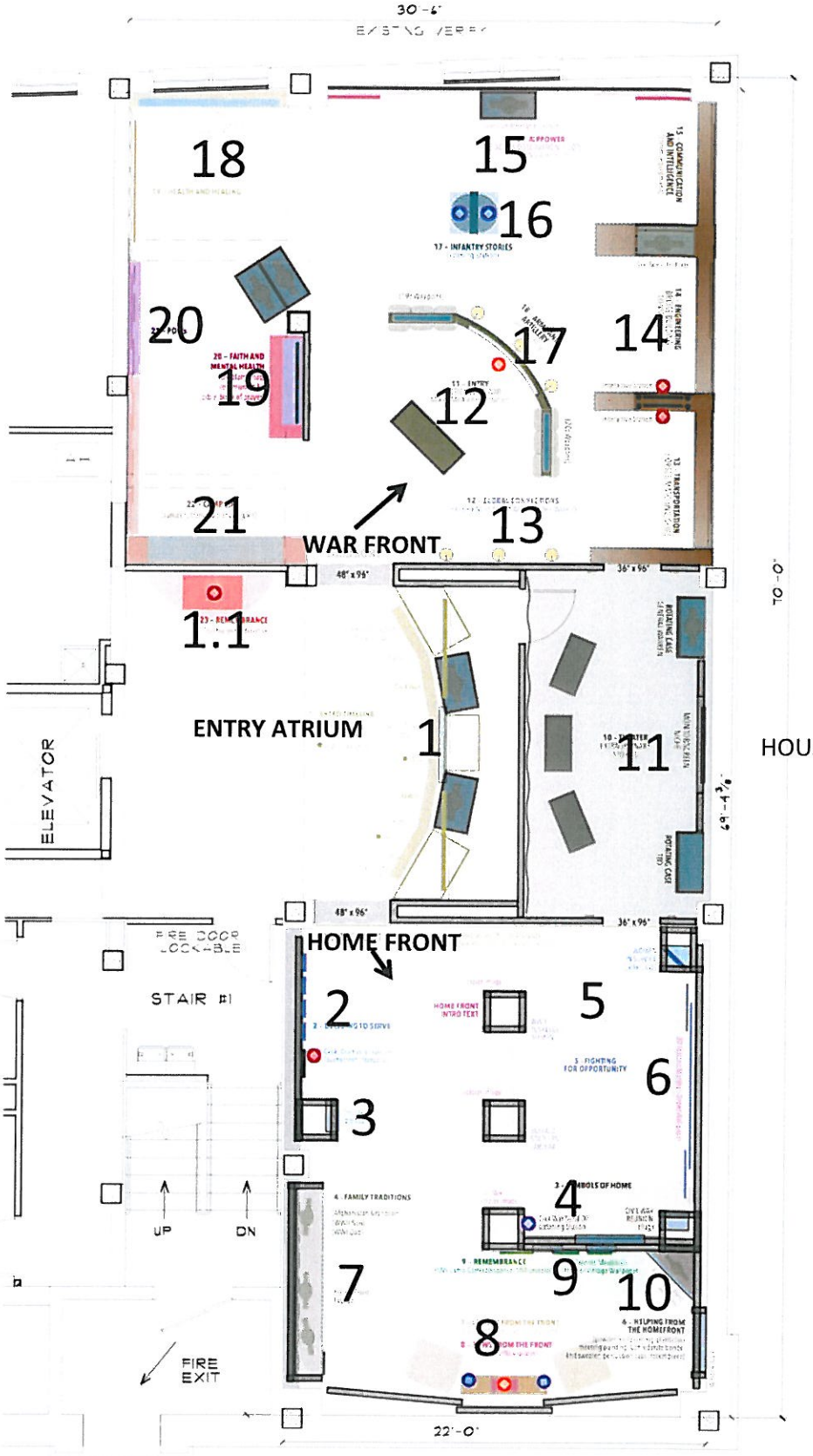

Exhibit Unit List

This exhibit will explore military service from 1836 to today from the perspective of the men and women of Harrison County. The exhibit will reflect the diversity of Harrison County. By examining military experiences through the lens of science and technology, the exhibit will reveal how Harrison County service members witnessed innovations in engineering, weaponry, communication and medical science. The exhibit will also explore the impacts of its citizens' military service on Harrison County as a community by reflecting on both the personal and social implications of service and sacrifice.

1. Introduction Atrium This entry exhibit will always to open to the elevator lobby giving visitors to performances in the auditorium an opportunity to preview the exhibit. Artifacts will be secured in locked acrylic cases.

Visitor's experience notes: For nearly two hundred years, the people of Harrison County have served in times of war and conflict. This entry exhibit will introduce those wars and the people of Harrison County who served. To the left, industrial materials and design choices will signal a warfront story. To the right, domestic materials and design choices will signal a home front story. Visitors are free to explore in either direction.

1.1 Remembrance: Touchscreen Interactive. Visitors may browse through the names of people who serve our country in the military or allied organizations. They may also enter the information on their family and friends. This will also be available on the internet through

the Museum's website. This database will also have the stories of those who are remembered on the Memorial City Hall plaques.

NOTE: A 20-page detailed description of the following units is available, but is not included in this summary because of its size.

HOMEFRONT

2. Deciding to Serve.
3. Hometown Heroes.
4. Spectacular Sendoff
5. Fighting for Opportunity
6. All-In
7. Family Traditions
8. News from the Front
9. Remembrance
10. Helping from the Homefront
11. Extraordinary Stories

WARFRONT

12. Warfront Introduction. In a simulated bunker visitors will sit down and view a mixed media presentation of memories of service from Harrison County individuals.
13. Global Connections
14. STEM and War: Transportation, Engineering, Communication
15. Airpower
16. Infantry Stories
17. Fighting the War: Arms and Artillery
18. Health and Healing
19. Faith and Healing
20. Prisoners of War
21. Camp Life