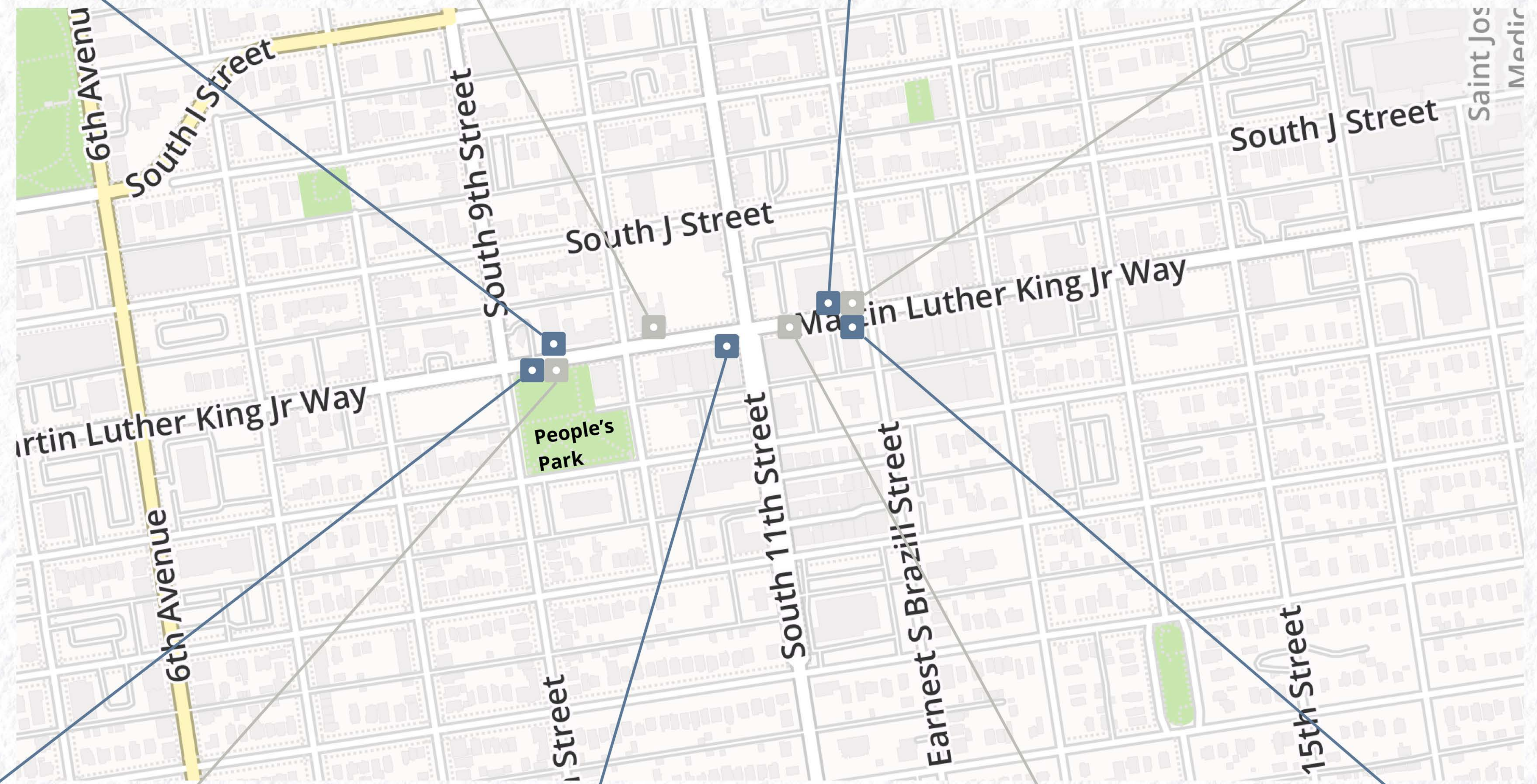


Hilltop Plaque Project

As part of the Links to Opportunities Hilltop Streetscape Improvement Project, we are installing a series of markers and plaques about important people, places, and events in Hilltop along Martin Luther King Jr. Way, between 6th Ave and S. 19th.

This project is informed by community engagement and outreach done in 2016-2018, where there were many calls for the history of Hilltop to be included in the design of the streetscape. 20 bronze plaques will tell the stories of locations and events that make up Hilltop, and 18 granite markers will tell the stories of the people that helped build Hilltop. This graphic shows the first 9 granite markers with important people to Hilltop, to be installed between S. 9th & Earnest S. Brazill streets. The remaining 9 granite markers and 20 plaques are still in development.



Helen Stafford
Born in 1899, she is a matriarch of Tacoma's Black community who spent decades fighting for civil rights and equality, primarily through her involvement and leadership in social clubs and luncheons...

Ray Gibson
Manager & founding member of the Caballero's Club, Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge 27...

Alberta Julie Canada
A leader in a number of organizations, and the driving force behind the creation of Martin Luther King Housing Development Association, the impact of her efforts in affordable housing reverberates today...

Virginia Taylor
Not only involved in social, civic, and political organizations, but as publisher of the *Northwest Dispatch*, one of Tacoma's few Black-owned publications, she provided the community with articles that were helpful & informative...

George Putnam Riley
He came to Tacoma in 1869, credited as the city's 1st Black citizen. As president of the Workingmen's Joint Stock Assoc., he purchased 67 acres of land in Hilltop in 1872...

Frank H Russell
Entrepreneur & leader in Hilltop with many accomplishments, developer of Afro-American Pavilion at Expo 74...

Harold Moss
He was not only Tacoma's first Black City Councilman and Mayor, but also the first Black Pierce County Councilman. He was a driving force in the Black community, and a leader in the fight against discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations...

Bertie Marie Edwards
Deeply involved in many organizations, including as President of Tacoma Assoc. of Colored Women's Clubs, she established Tacoma's first senior citizen's center...

Reverend Earnest Stonewall Brazill
Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church for over 4 decades, and a staunch leader in the Black community. Founding the Tacoma Ministerial Alliance is one of his many successes...

Example

Bertie Marie Edwards
Deeply involved in many organizations, including as President of Tacoma Assoc. of Colored Women's Clubs, she established Tacoma's first senior citizen's center

11th and MLK, in front of Sound Outreach

Process



Each Plaque will be etched into granite!

Material



Carnelian Coldspring Granite

Size



1' tall by 2'-5' wide

