Good evening. I’m Charlie Crawford with Georgia Battlefields Association, a battlefield preservation group. Incidentally, my ancestors fought for the Union.

Earlier, we had a presentation that explained the different categories of historical markers, monument, statues, and street names. I would emphasize that there are differences. Historical markers indicate what happened at a particular site and are almost always free of rationalizations or political characterizations. In contrast, monuments often extol the virtues—or supposed virtues—of individuals or political philosophies. I would caution against any universal approach to all markers and monuments and plaques and street names. Instead, please establish a policy that will consider each marker or statue or monument individually so that we don’t obscure the significance of a historic site in our effort to remove reminders of a time when the city government endorsed white supremacy.

Thank you for the important work you’re doing.