PROJECT OVERVIEW & BACKGROUND

In 2012, the Smithsonian Steering Committee developed project goals and priorities for the South Mall area. An existing conditions survey was conducted that included testing initial planning options for their feasibility in meeting Smithsonian requirements. The major projects below were the impetus of the Master Plan effort, and regardless of the Alternative chosen will need to be addressed.

VISITOR CENTER & EDUCATION SPACE
The Castle and the Quadrangle building currently hold a large amount of administrative offices that take away space from the public functions of the buildings. The Smithsonian hopes to relocate these offices during the course of this project to utilize the buildings for more public functions such as gallery and gathering spaces.

CASTLE RENOVATION AND SEISMIC UPGRADE
The Smithsonian Institution Building (Castle) is in need of major building renovation and renovation. Part of that renovation will be to upgrade the building’s capacity to resist a seismic event.

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS UPGRADE
The buildings on the South Mall Campus range from 30 - 90 years old and their mechanical systems will soon all need to be replaced to increase efficiency and reduce repair and maintenance costs.

QUADRANGLE ROOF REPAIR
The roof of the Quadrangle building currently leaks. To repair this leak the Haupt Garden will have to be removed and replaced to gain access to the roof membrane beneath the garden.

CAMPUS WIDE PERIMETER SECURITY
The South Mall Campus perimeter security plan has not been implemented.

HIRSHHORN MUSEUM ENVELOPE IMPROVEMENTS
The exterior of the Hirshhorn will soon need to be repaired and improved to meet current museum environmental standards.