

# The Justice Thurgood Marshall Amenity Center at PS 103

Baltimore, Maryland

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Cross Street Partners and Beloved Community Services Corp are redeveloping the Henry Garnet School (PS103) into the Justice Thurgood Marshall Amenity Center at PS 103 which, with University of Maryland as a partner, will honor the legacy of Justice Thurgood Marshall and other civil rights leaders who called Upton home while also providing needed community services, resources, and education in the historically underserved community.

Located in the center of Baltimore's Upton community, PS 103 was built in 1877 and was a segregated elementary school for African American children. One of its most recognizable students was Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first African American appointed to the US Supreme Court, who attended the school from 1914 – 1921. PS 103 was a prominent elementary school until it closed in the early 1970s, and then the building was converted to a recreational center that provided nonprofit office space for community organizations until it was permanently closed in the early 1990s. After sitting vacant for over 20 years, a fire nearly destroyed PS 103 in 2016; luckily, after replacing the roof and making other structural repairs, the bones of the building remained in good shape.

The Amenity Center will be a major step forward in establishing Upton as a cultural tourism destination to celebrate and honor the community's significance in the nation's Civil Rights Movement. The new Justice Thurgood Marshall Center will help the Upton community actualize its community vision, which commits to "reclaim the vestiges of its distinct African American heritage and be the hub of a cultural revitalization where the memory of the great entertainers, artists and civic leaders who proudly proclaimed Upton as their neighborhood will serve as a beacon by drawing investments back into the community."

Baltimore's Upton community was once a thriving middle-class African American community where Black community members owned businesses, led social organizations, and generated political power. Reimagining PS 103 represents an opportunity to celebrate the community's historic significance while investing in its future by inspiring a new generation of Black leaders in the community and throughout the City of Baltimore.

The Project named in honor of Justice Marshall may become a protected site and managed in perpetuity by the National Park Service. This distinction will create a new tourist attraction for West Baltimore that will help to spur additional residential, commercial, and hospitality development throughout the Upton community. ■



### DEVELOPER

Beloved Community Services Corp  
Cross Street Partners

### ARCHITECT

Sulton Campbell Britt & Associates

### CSP ROLE

Co-Developer  
Financial Advisory  
Owner's Representative

### PROJECT TYPE

Adaptive Reuse, Education,  
Historic/cultural exhibit space,  
Community services, Programming

### PROJECT SIZE

22,068 square feet

### PROJECT COST

\$12.5MM

### START / COMPLETION

Summer 2022 / Summer 2023

2101 E. Biddle Street, Suite 1201  
Baltimore, MD 21224

[www.CrossStPartners.com](http://www.CrossStPartners.com)

[www.JusticeThurgoodMarshallCenter.org](http://www.JusticeThurgoodMarshallCenter.org)