# JOHNSON ODOM PARK

January 2, 2024

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Marlene Johnson-Odom

"Marlene was **a trailblazer and a conscientious, deeply committed public servant** who served with **genuine honesty and integrity**. She was a tireless **advocate for her constituents and for the poor and disenfranchised**, and her gentle kindness came through in how she treated people," said 10th District Ald. Michael Murphy in a press release.

Dylan Deprey, January 21, 2017, milwaukeecourieronline.com

Marlene Johnson-Odom held a lot of positions, and even after working for more than 24 years as an alderwoman on city of Milwaukee Common Council, **being a mom was her most important position**.

Dylan Deprey, January 21, 2017, milwaukeecourieronline.com

Though her achievements stand for themselves, her three children Jan Johnson Carlyle, Paula Johnson and Jay Johnson would say that she always put them before anything.

Dylan Deprey, January 21, 2017, milwaukeecourieronline.com

Johnson-Odom, who served from 1980 to 2004, holds the distinction of being **the longest-serving African American and the longest-serving woman in the council's history**.

Jeramey Jannene, July 15, 2020, UrbanMilwaukee.com

"Alderwoman Johnson–Odom served the 6th District with dedication and distinction, and it is **appropriate to honor her legacy by naming a public green space in the district that can be enjoyed by families and children for decades**," said Coggs in a statement praising the change.

Jeramey Jannene, July 15, 2020, UrbanMilwaukee.com

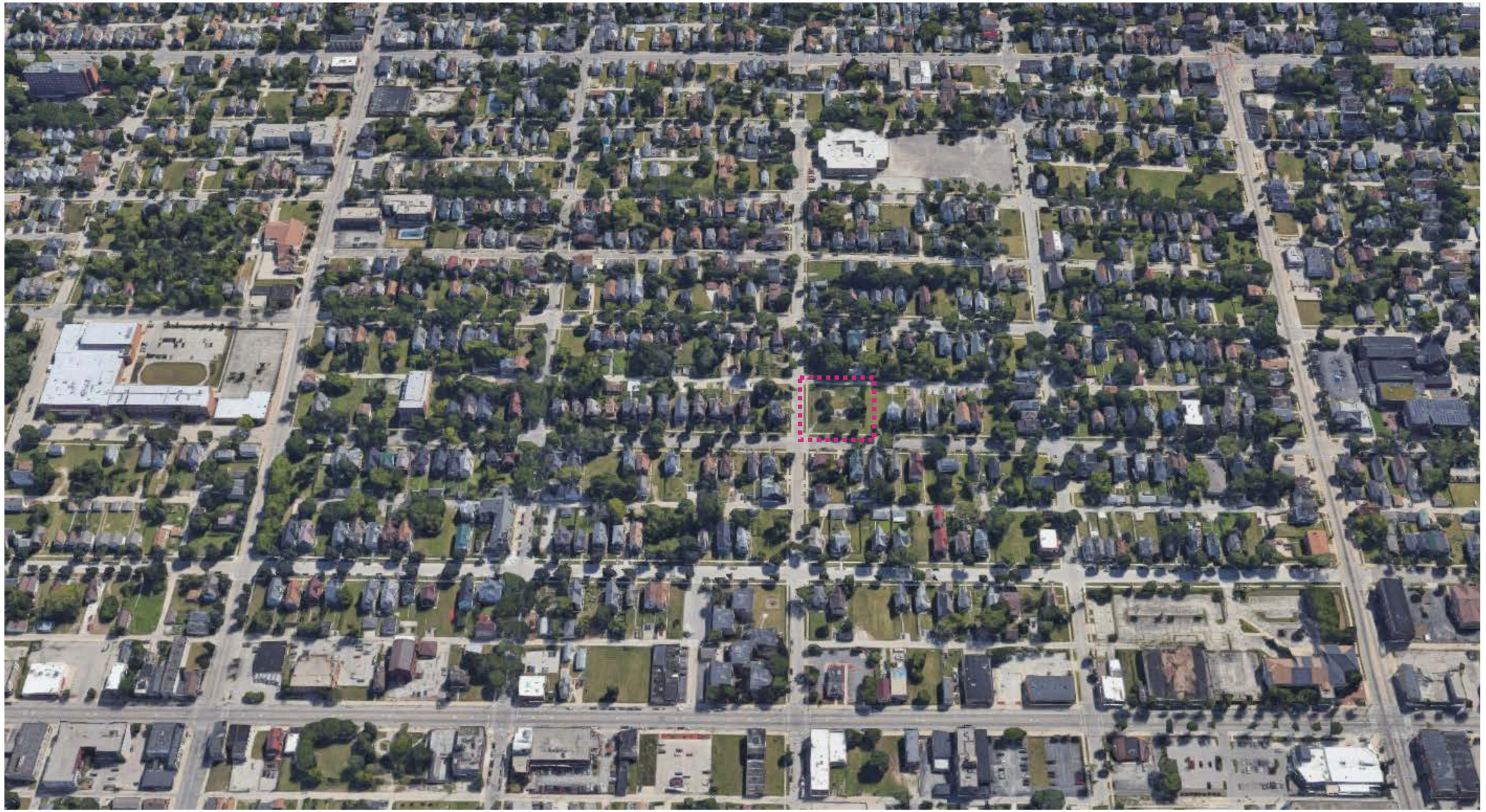
The longtime Milwaukee alderwoman led efforts on the Common Council to rename N. 3rd St. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in honor of the civil rights leader. A Milwaukee native born in the central city, she was **committed to issues like fair employment, civil rights and economic development**. And she brought together developers and residents to improve the community.

"I think the best way I describe her is quiet leadership, as a mom and as a public figure," her daughter, Jan Johnson Carlyle, said.

"She was always all about **making sure that the community was well-represented and was taken care of** in terms of what the needs were for the constituents and the business community also," Johnson Carlyle said. "She, I think, is a major reason why King Drive development came back to the area after the riots in the '60s."

Mary Spicuzza, January 19 2017, jsonline.com

# EXISTING CONDITIONS



**EXISTING PARK**

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## EXISTING PARK

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## EXISTING PARK







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## EXISTING PARK

## 405 Ramps

**405.1 General.**

Ramps along accessible routes shall comply with Section 405.

**EXCEPTION:** In assembly areas, aisle ramps adjacent to seating and not serving elements required to be on an accessible route shall not be required to comply with Section 405.

**405.2 Slope.**

Ramp runs shall have a running slope greater than 1:20 and not steeper than 1:12.

**EXCEPTION:** In existing buildings or facilities, ramps shall be permitted to have slopes steeper than 1:12 complying with Table 405.2 where such slopes are necessary due to space limitations.

**TABLE 405.2—ALLOWABLE RAMP DIMENSIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION IN EXISTING SITES, BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES**

| Slope[1] | Maximum Rise |
|---|---|
| Steeper than 1:10 but not steeper than 1:8 | 3 inches (75 mm) |
| Steeper than 1:12 but not steeper than 1:10 | 6 inches (150 mm) |

[1]A slope steeper than 1:8 shall not be permitted.

**405.3 Cross Slope.**

Cross slope of ramp runs shall not be steeper than 1:48.

**405.9 Edge Protection.**

Edge protection complying with Section 405.9.1 or 405.9.2 shall be provided on each side of ramp runs and at each side of ramp landings.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

1. Edge protection shall not be required on ramps not required to have handrails and that have flared sides complying with Section 406.3.
2. Edge protection shall not be required on the sides of ramp landings serving an adjoining ramp run or stairway.
3. Edge protection shall not be required on the sides of ramp landings having a vertical dropoff of $^1/_2$ inch (13 mm) maximum within 10 inches (255 mm) horizontally of the minimum landing area specified in Section 405.7.
4. Edge protection shall not be required on the sides of ramped aisles where the ramps provide access to the adjacent seats and aisle access ways.

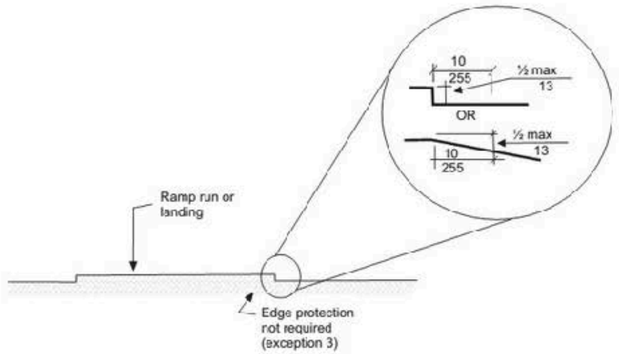



FIG. 405.9 EDGE PROTECTION—LIMITED DROP OFF

**405.6 Rise.**

The rise for any ramp run shall be 30 inches (760 mm) maximum.

**405.7 Landings.**

Ramps shall have landings at the bottom and top of each ramp run. Landings shall comply with Section 405.7.

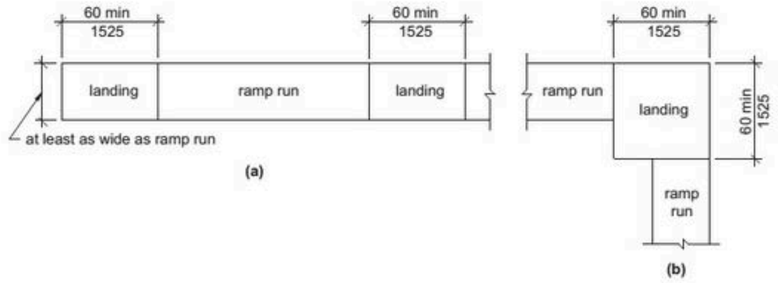



FIG. 405.7 RAMP LANDINGS

**405.7.1 Slope.**

Landings shall have a slope not steeper than 1:48 and shall comply with Section 302.

**405.7.2 Width.**

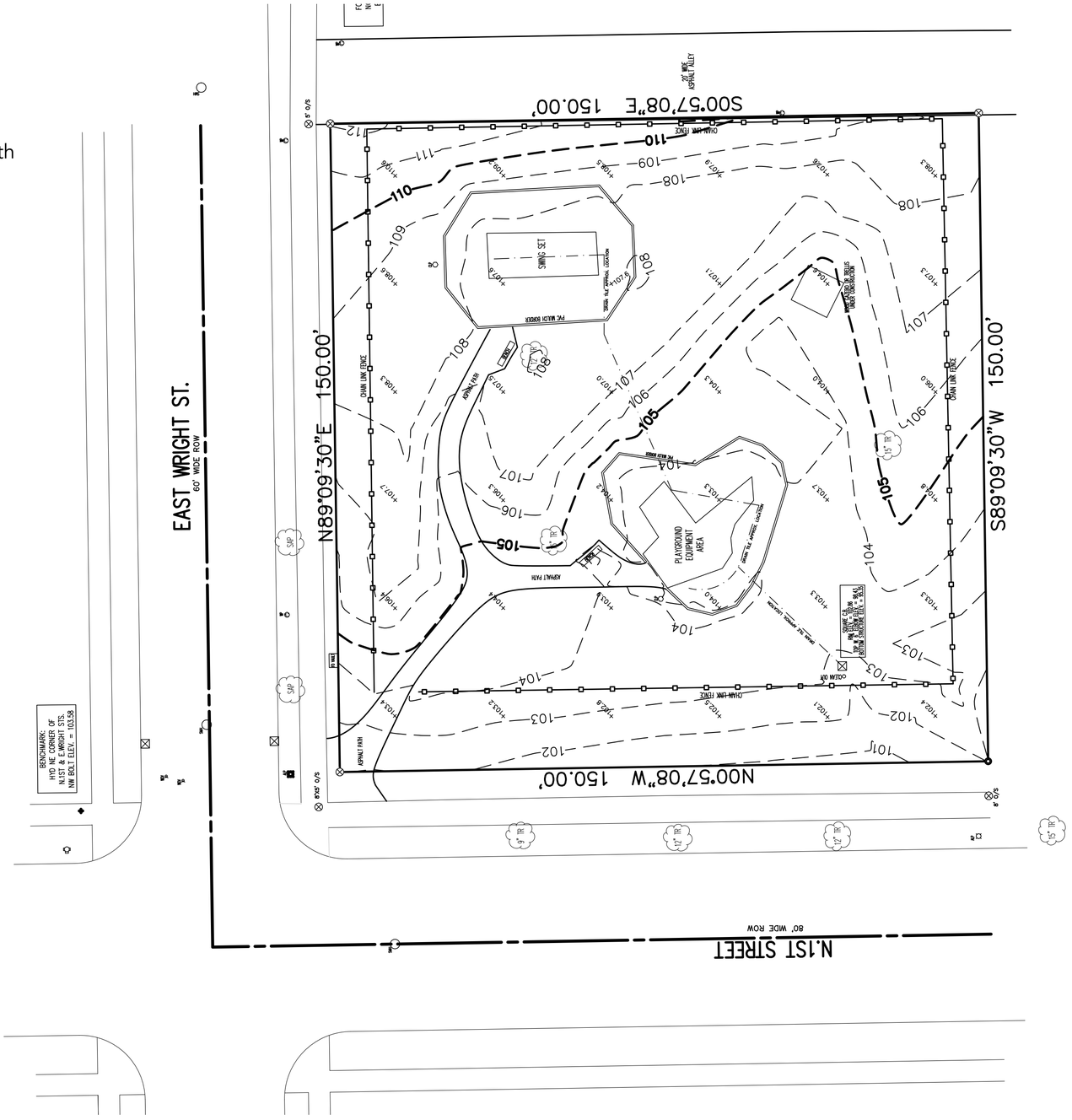
Clear width of landings shall be at least as wide as the widest ramp run leading to the landing.

**405.7.3 Length.**

Landings shall have a clear length of 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum.

# EXISTING PLAN

1. **Design Scope**
   - A. Redesign park circulation pathways, potentially in a loop configuration, with the community suggestion of moving the entrance farther from the corner.
   - B. Develop play spaces for new playground equipment, both traditional equipment and nature based play elements.
   - C. Provide community desired seating and “creative” seating elements.
   - D. Provide a literacy-based element to honor Marlene Johnson-Odom.
   - E. Provide guidelines for new landscape, planting elements and new lighting
   - F. Explore methods to incorporate art into the site design.
   - G. Study possible storm water capture elements.
   - H. Separate areas for younger and older users
   - I. Keep existing site trees




## EXISTING SITE PLAN

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## BIG IDEAS

- A corner park that encompasses community, play, and a dignified memorial to Marlene Johnson Odom.
- Defined outdoor rooms within a natural garden.
- Utilize the entire site.
- Provide spaces for children and adults to be together and separate.
- Allow for opportunities to infuse art elements, quotes, memorial plaques and decorative benches.
- Utilize new plantings to define outdoor “room” for play and gathering

## COMMUNITY SPACE

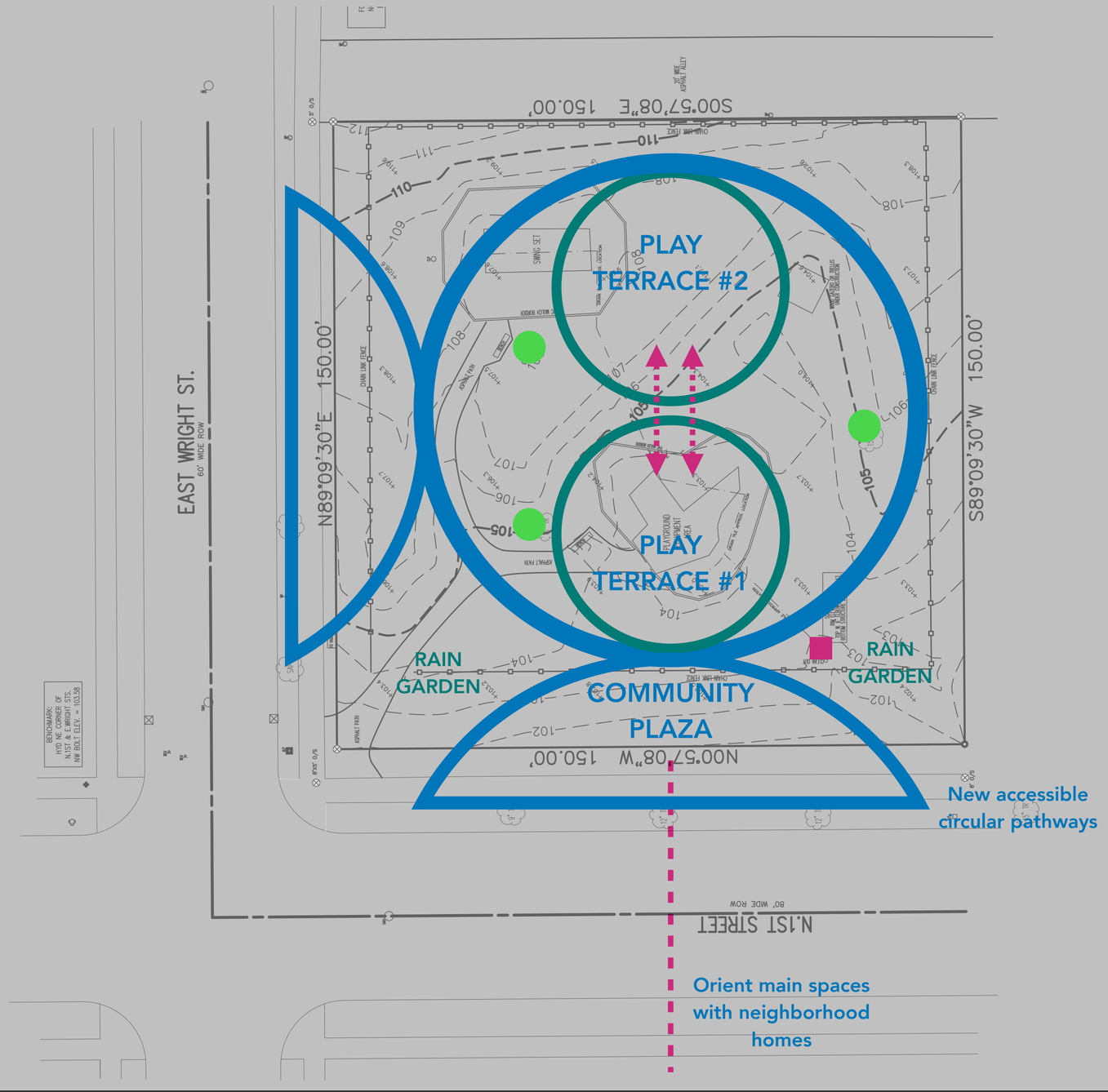
- Integrate sidewalk and park experience.
- A meandering diagonal shortcut across the park.
- Position direct access to community gathering and literacy elements directly from sidewalk.

## PLAYGROUND

- Utilize reconfigured terraces to create level play surfaces and link them through play based slopes and gardens.
- Combine traditional play equipment with nature based play elements.

## SUSTAINANILITY

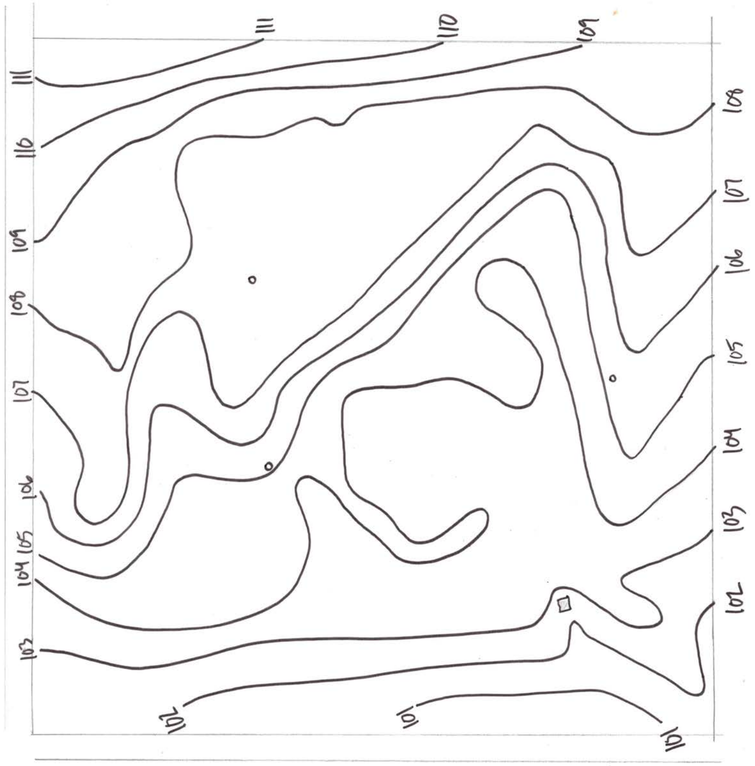
- Replace street facing fences with gardens.
- Incorporate 3 existing deciduous trees as large element within activity space for shaded play area. Add to these trees to make a symmetrical arrangement.
- Utilize native & evergreen gardening instead of grass.



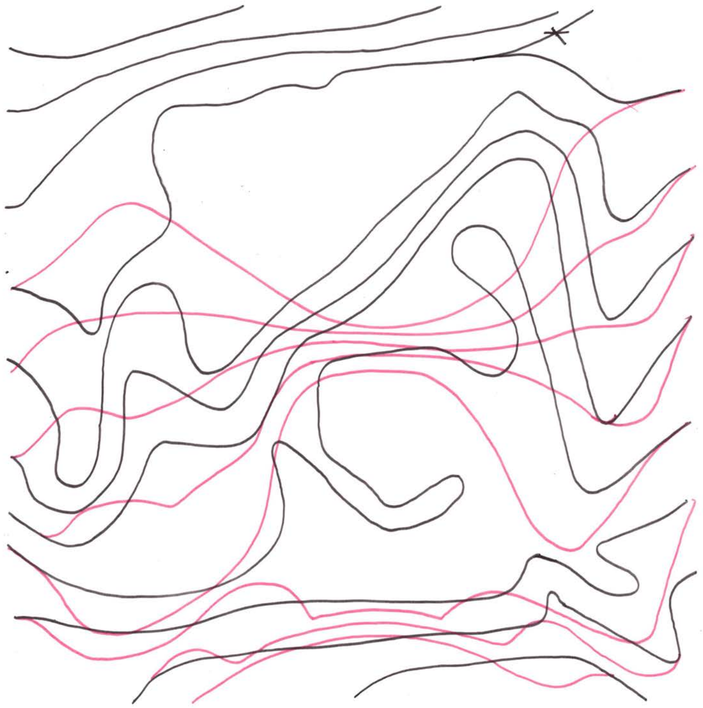

# EXISTING SITE PLAN - STRATEGIES

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Alley (east)

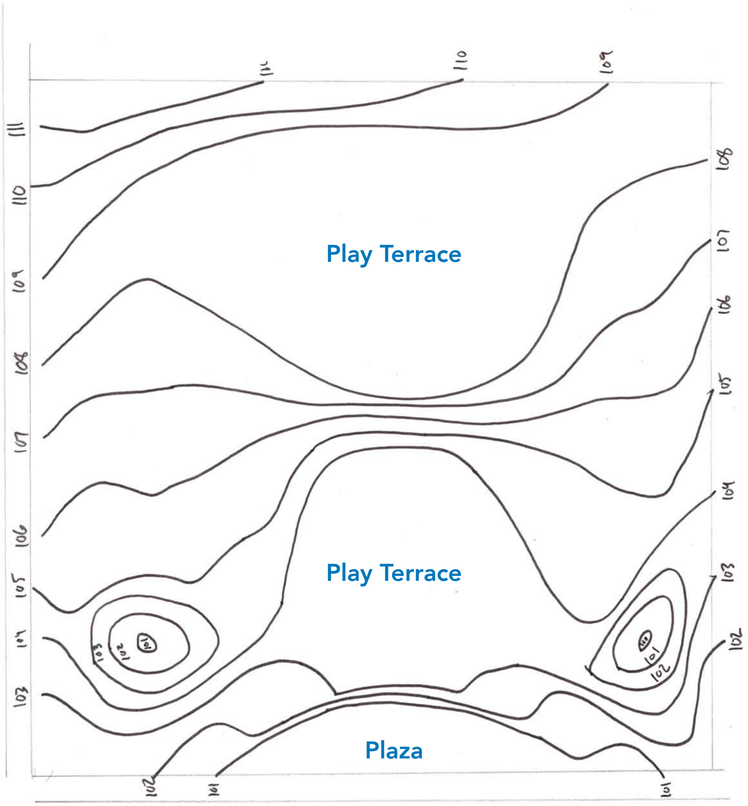


Existing Topography



Modified Topography

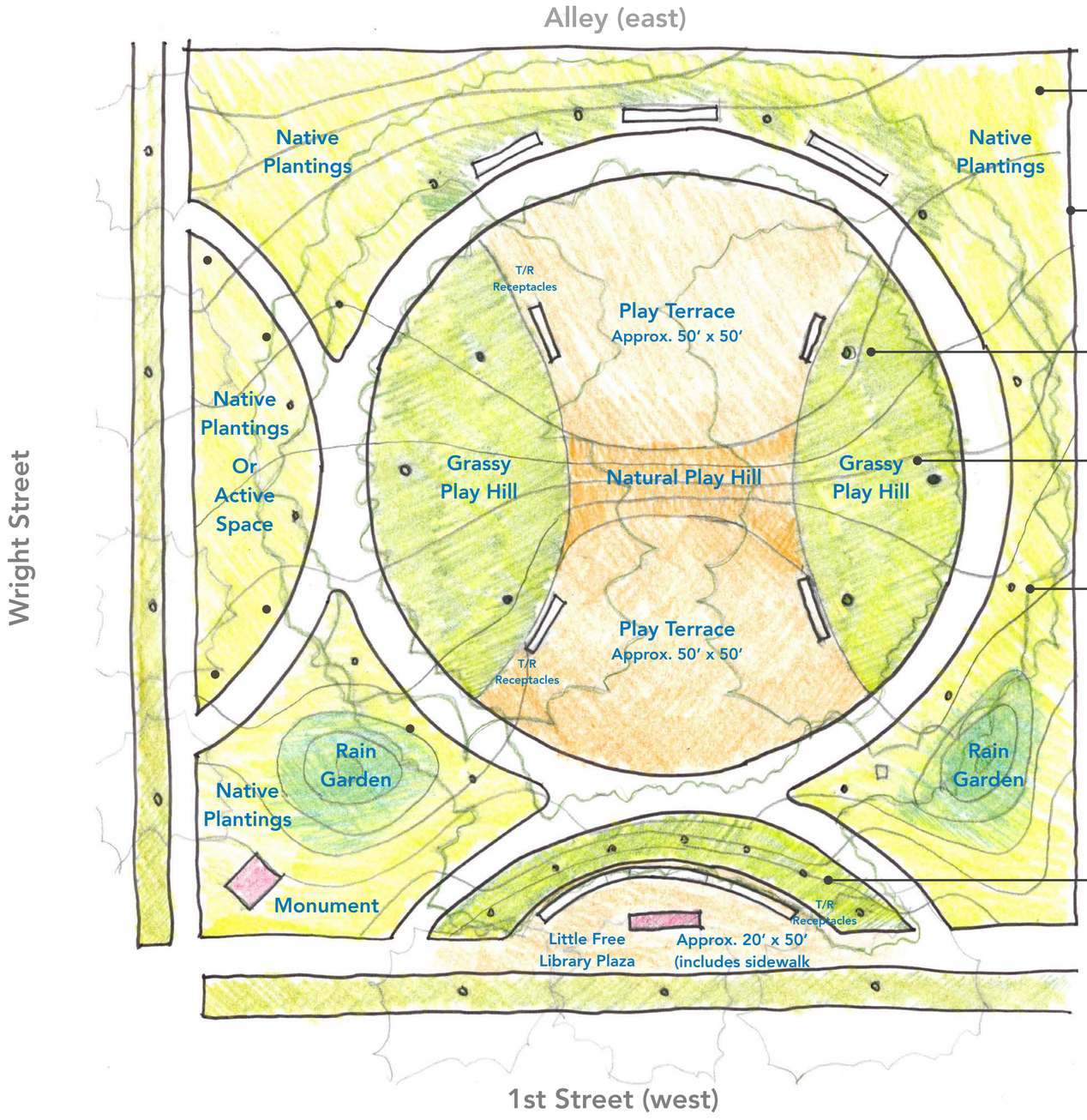
Cut & Fill areas to create terraces graduating from east to west




New Topography

1st Street (west)

Topography Modifications




Native plantings surrounding park



Low wooded "screening" fence along alley and neighbor property to the south



New tall trees to compliment existing three trees & provide shaded play spaces



Grass or "No Mow" grass around play hills

Ring of new low to medium height, narrow width trees around walkways



Low evergreen shrubs or grass around plaza & play hills



## New Site Plan

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**Renderings - Aerial View from street corner**



Renderings - Corner View with memorial sculpture & free little library sidewalk plaza on 1st street

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Renderings - 1st Street view of little free library sidewalk plaza and terraced playgrounds

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Renderings - Little Free Library Plaza and Terraced Playgrounds

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Renderings - 1st Street Entrance

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Renderings - Circular Path & Terraced Playground, Looking North to Wright Street

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Renderings - Rear of park (alley) looking over terraced playground & circular path with ring of trees



Renderings - Wright Street Entrance higher on hill

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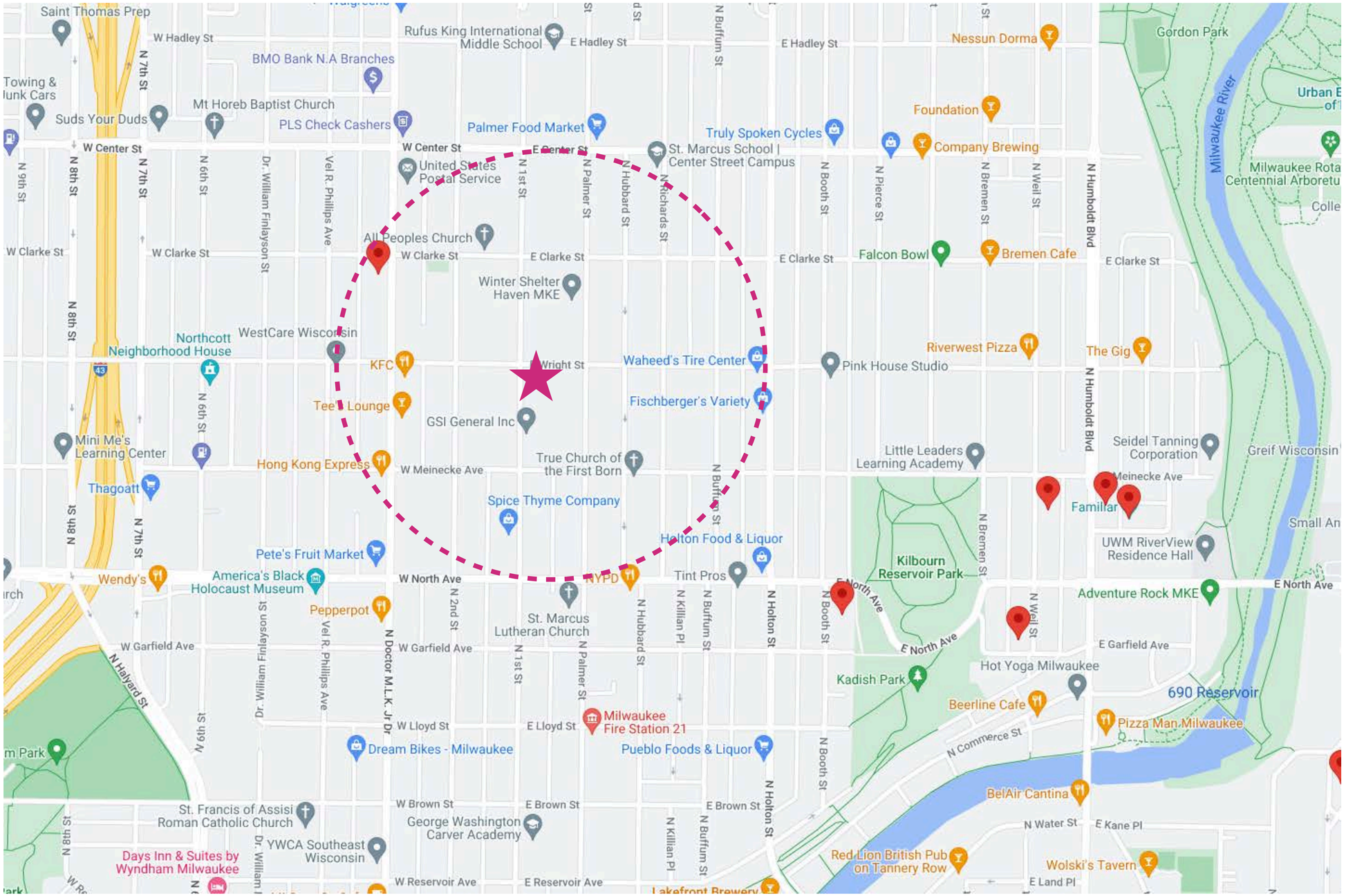


Renderings - Wright Street Entrance lower on hill

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**Renderings - Aerial View from rear corner**



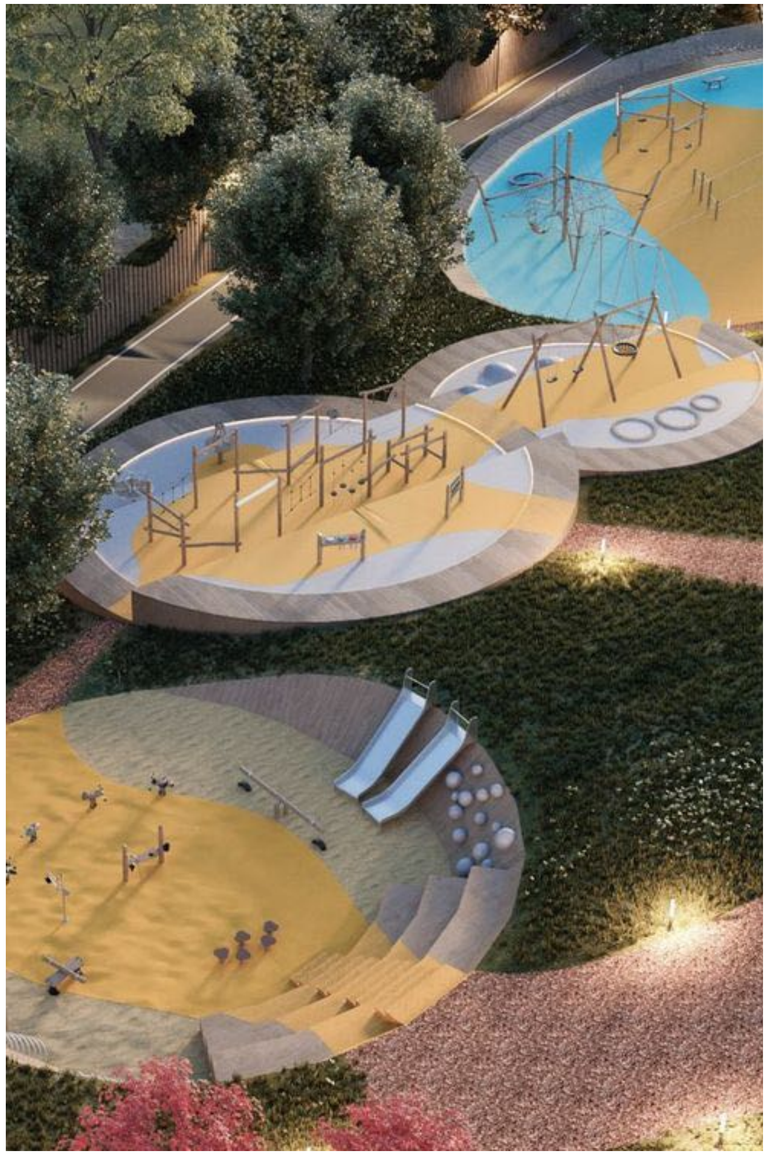

**Little Free Library Locations (red)  Johnson Odom Park (star)**

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# DESIGN INSPIRATION & STYLE







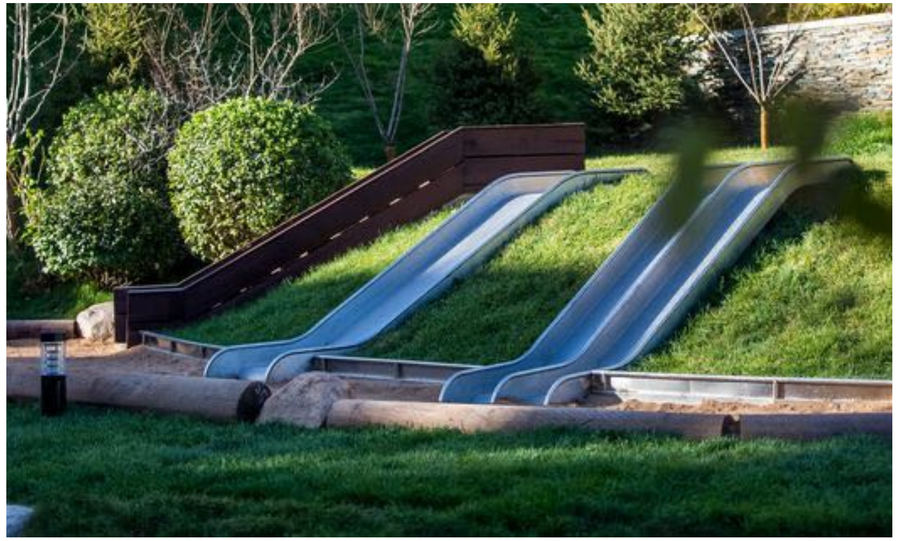










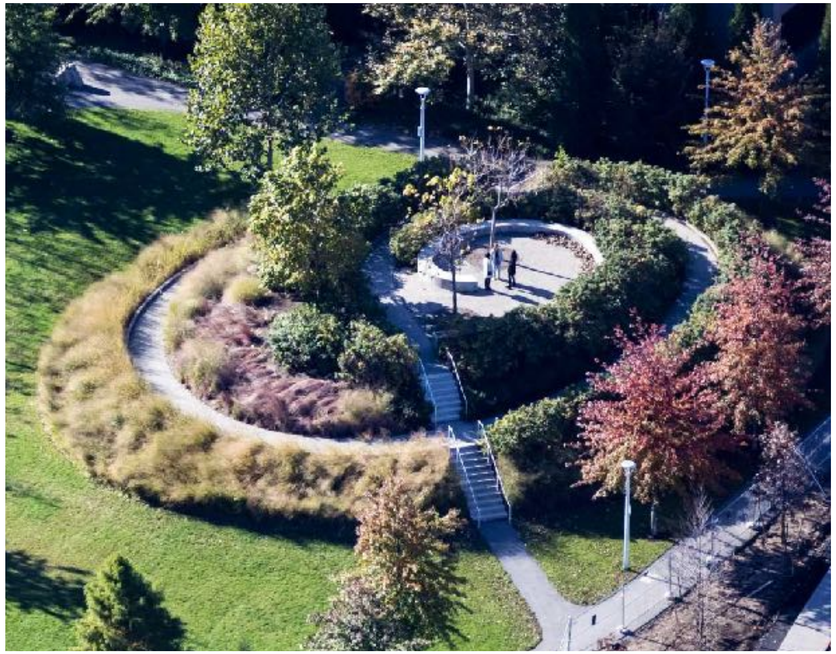




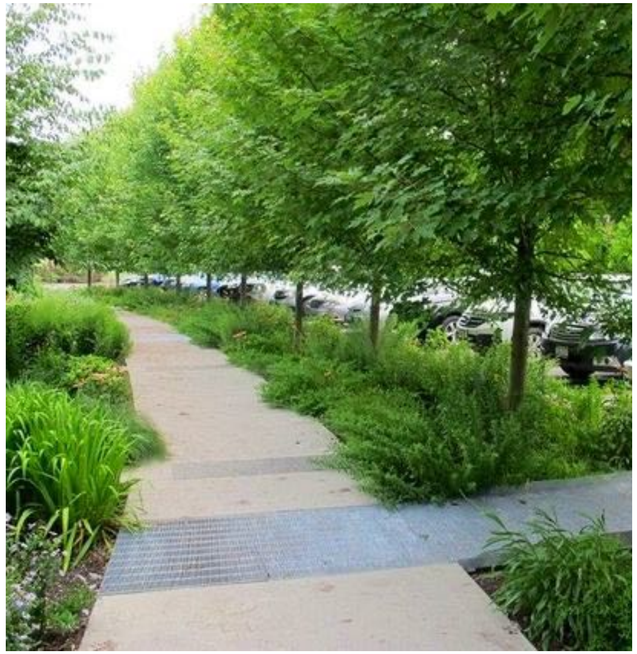






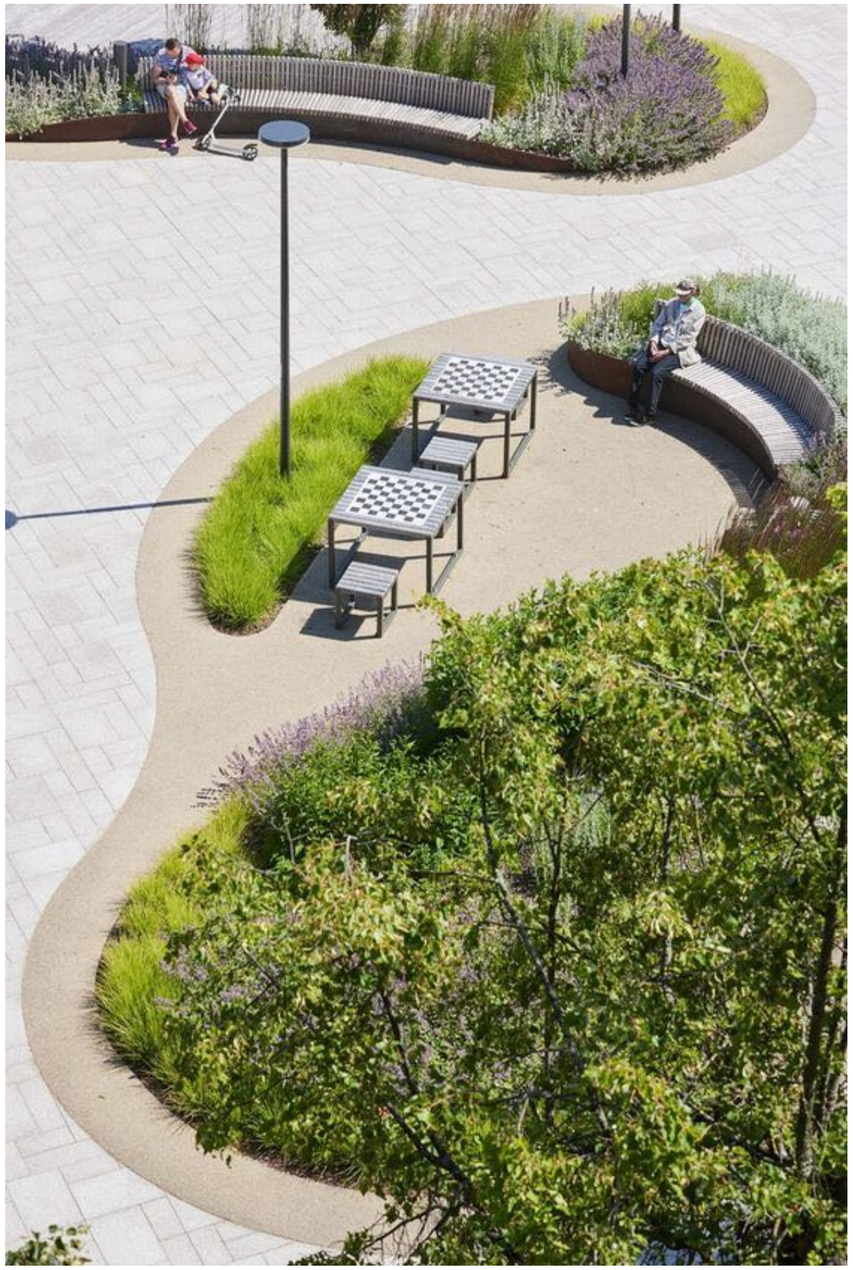






## PLANTINGS TO CREATE SPACE AND DEFINE TERRACES & WALKWAYS



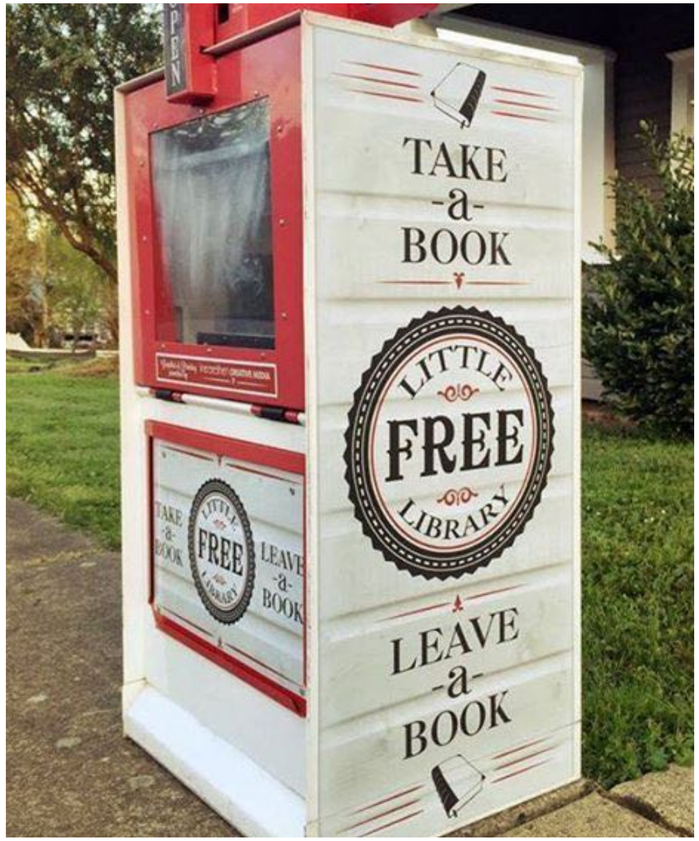








## COMMUNITY PLAZA






Little Free Library






Meaningful Quotes





Statue, Sculpture, Story telling





Designs in walkways

ART, EDUCATIONAL, HISTORIC & MEMORIAL ELEMENTS











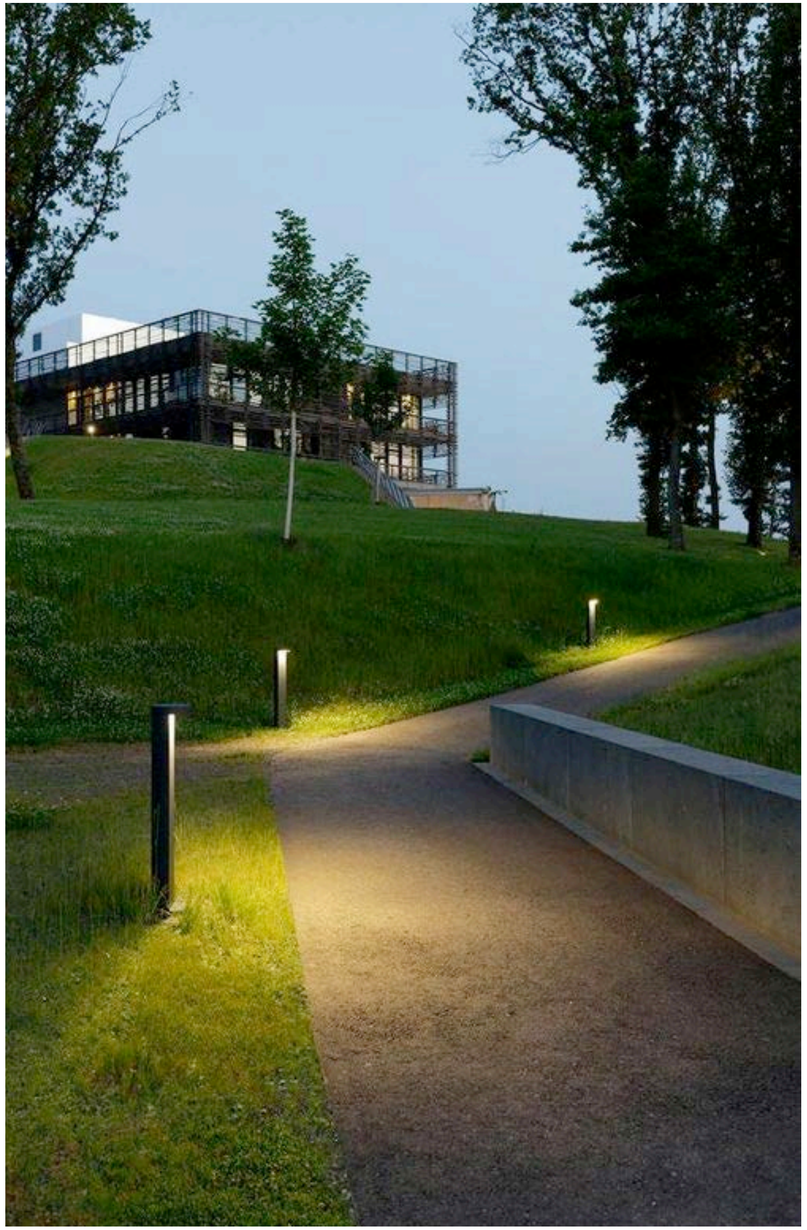


Chess Tables

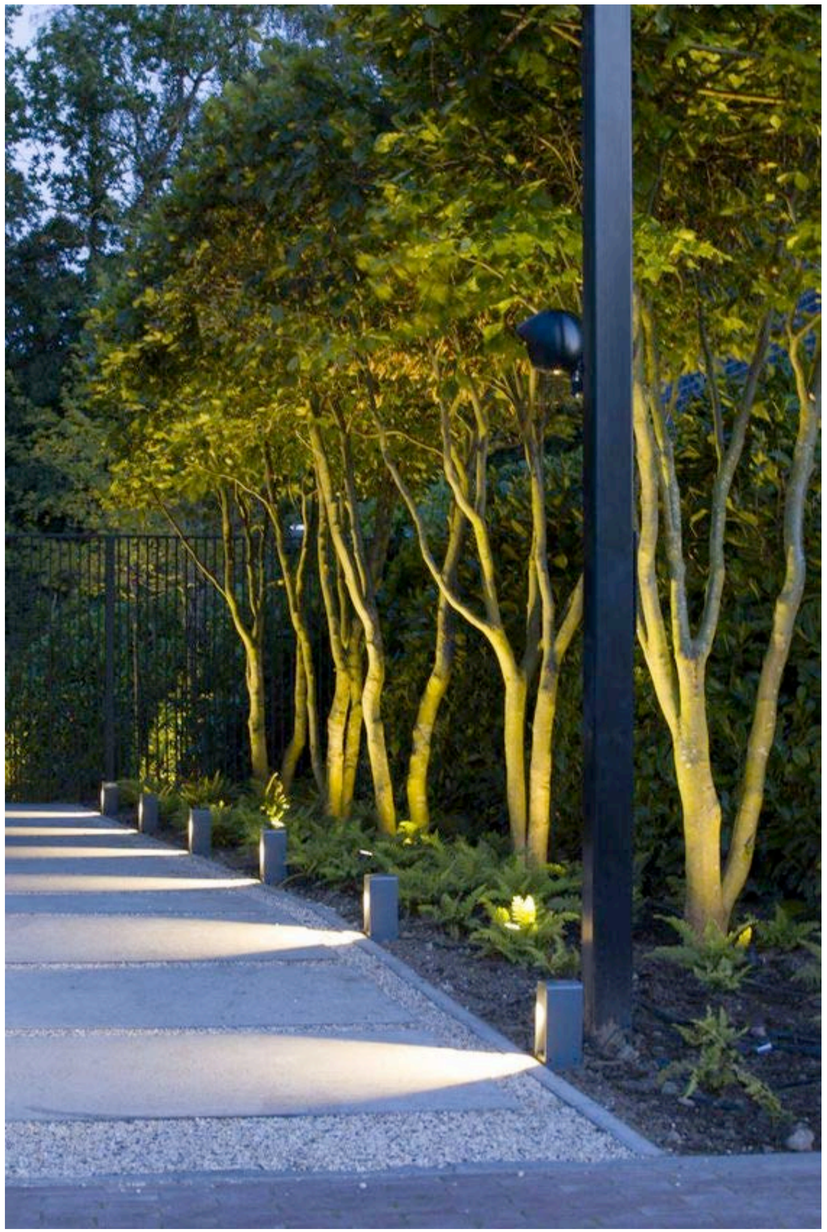
Educational / Edible Garden

Sitting / Relaxing Area

## Optional Programmed Activities



Bollard path lighting



Tree Uplights & Walk Lights



“Dark Sky” compliant light poles

## NIGHT LIGHTING OPTIONS

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