

31 May 2023

Beige Berryman, Executive Director  
Philadelphia Art Commission  
1515 Arch Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Re: Farm Philly Agriculture Resource Center in West Fairmount Park

Dear Ms. Berryman:

On behalf of Farm Philly, we respectfully request time on the June 14, 2023 Art Commission meeting to present for final review the revised plans for the Agriculture Resource Center (ARC) located in West Fairmount Park.

#### Project Goals

To expand communities' capacity for local food production in the city, the ARC will be a City-operated, staffed, temporary all-in-one center to provide the tools necessary to start a garden or farm and provide public workshops and training for growers. This project is a recommended action step from *Growing from the Root: Philadelphia's Urban Agriculture Plan*.

#### Existing Conditions

The site is east of the CASE Building at 4300 S. Concourse Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19131, and directly west of the Parkside Edge rooms and green stormwater infrastructure along Parkside Avenue.

The site is currently approximately 0.25 acres of lawn with mature trees. All existing trees will be retained during this project. Studio Bryan Hanes assessed the site and identified critical root zones and tree health on January 26th, 2023.

#### Proposed Design

The proposed design consists of three recycled 40' shipping containers in an L configuration to house Farm Philly's tool inventory for lending and 'floating' wood decking (without concrete piers) surrounding an existing pin oak. The containers and decking are temporary; the total earth disturbance is less than 5000 SF.

The containers are connected and staffed by a tool librarian; the interior is not open to the public. People picking up or returning tools visit a service window in the central container or, for large tools, doors at either end. All three containers are connected via interior doorways for ARC staff to access all parts of the library.

All three containers require electrical for outlets and lights; service is from the CASE Building. The container with the staffed service window has a point-of-sale system for transactions. Two of the containers are air-conditioned.

The 2000 SF deck offers shaded gathering space to host workshops and events. The orientation of the containers and deck opens towards the Parkside neighborhood, providing an inviting and active view into the space, and aligns with the façade of the CASE Building. A stone fines walking path connects the project to the Parkside Edge sidewalk, bus stop, and nearby Indego station. Two dedicated parking spaces in the CASE Building parking lot serve people arriving in vehicles. A gravel pull-off space along South Concourse Avenue allows additional space for pick-ups and returns. Host and nectar plants for pollinators and flowering vines comprise the plant palette.

## Revisions from Concept Review

In our previous meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Commission expressed concern about the proximity of a proposed gravel driveway to the root zone of an existing pin oak tree. We have reconsidered the drive location and construction method to alleviate such concerns.

- a. The revised plan shows a T-shaped drive that avoids the majority of the critical root zone.
- b. The primary project access for vehicles is via the existing parking lot at the CASE Building. The access drive connecting directly to South Concourse Drive is only for the pickup of large/heavy items in the tool library, such as the seed winnows. To emphasize the infrequent use of this drive, we are proposing either a grass-reinforcement mesh or a geocell with gravel infill. This will distribute vehicular loads to protect the root zone and, in the case of the grass-reinforcement mesh, would allow grass to grow through and make this drive less visually prominent.

## Project Contacts

Rebekah Armstrong (*answer questions about the application and receive the Commission's Decision*)

Studio Bryan Hanes

340 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 415, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Office: 215-923-2858

Cell: 267-804-0081

Email: rarmstrong@studiobryanhane.com

Ash Richards (*receive the Commission's Decision*)

Director of Urban Agriculture

Philadelphia Parks & Recreation

One Parkway Building

1515 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Email: Ashley.Richards@phila.gov

EmmaKate Martin (*receive the Commission's Decision*)

Farm Philly Manager

Fairmount Park Conservancy

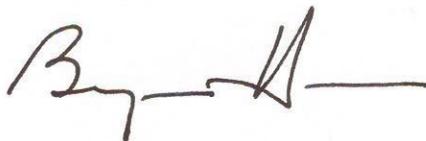
Ohio House, 4700 States Drive

Philadelphia, PA 19131

Email: ekmartin@myphillypark.org

I will have application packets delivered to your office by June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Sincerely,



Bryan Hanes, ASLA, LEED

Principal

STUDIO|BRYAN HANES

# DESIGN REVIEW FOR AGRICULTURE RESOURCE CENTER

SUBMITTED TO THE PHILADELPHIA ART COMMISSION

PREPARED FOR FARM PHILLY

14 JUNE 2023

# CONTEXT PLAN - AERIAL



SITE

Ⓐ PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM

Ⓑ CAROUSEL HOUSE

Ⓒ JOHN WELSH MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN

Ⓓ CASE BUILDING

Ⓔ DISCOVERY CHARTER SCHOOL

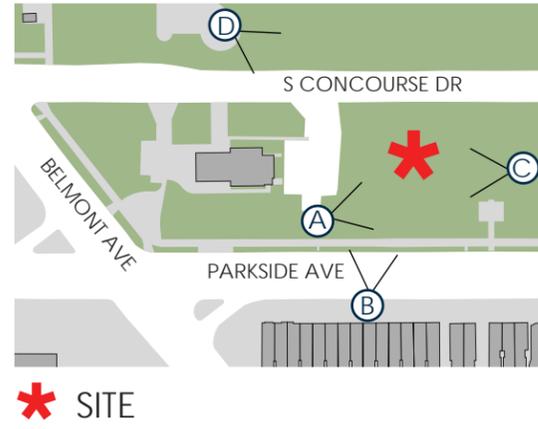
Ⓕ NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES

# AERIAL IMAGE - SITE

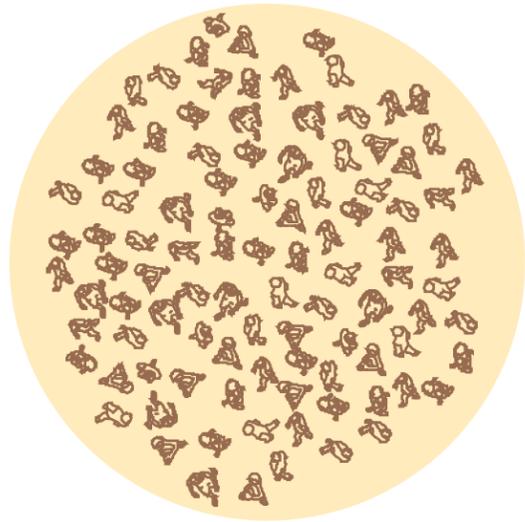
Aerial imagery: City of Philadelphia 3in Color, 2018, available from Pennsylvania Imagery Navigator



# PHOTOGRAPHS



# PROGRAM



## GATHERING

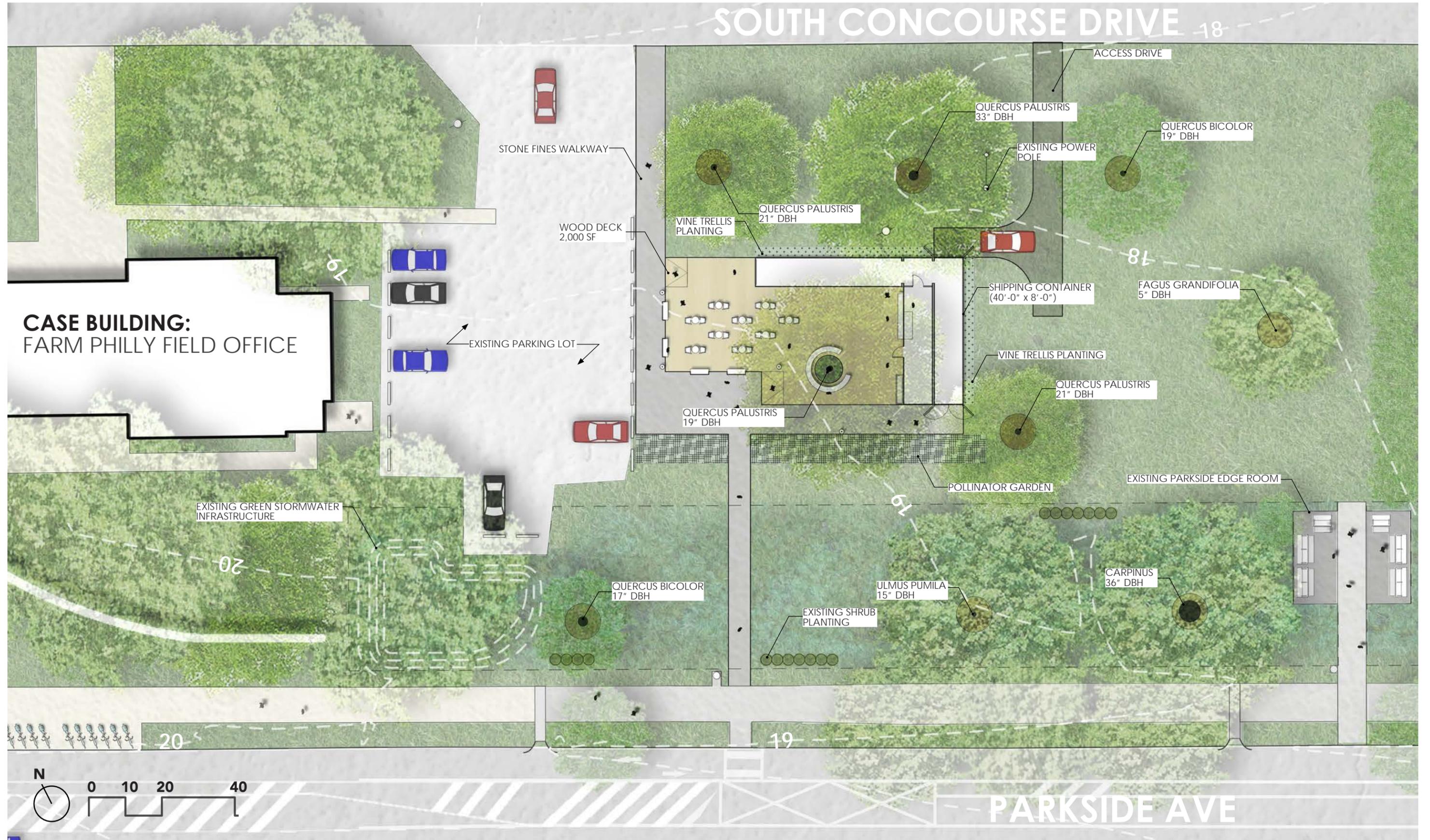
minimum 1600 sf deck  
100 people standing  
30-40 people at workshop tables  
opportunity for space beyond deck



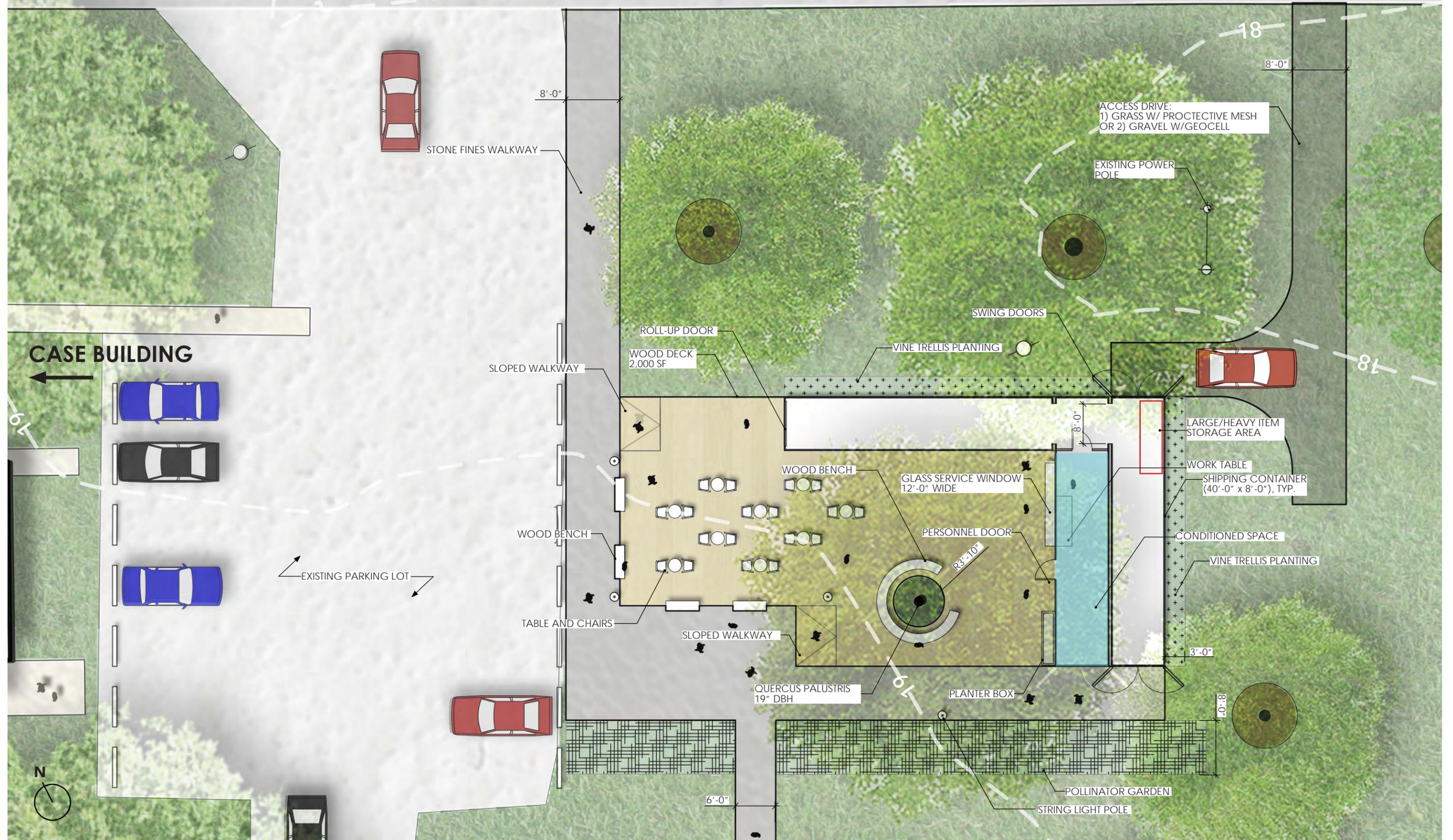
## TOOL LIBRARY

3 8'x40' containers  
opportunity to add containers

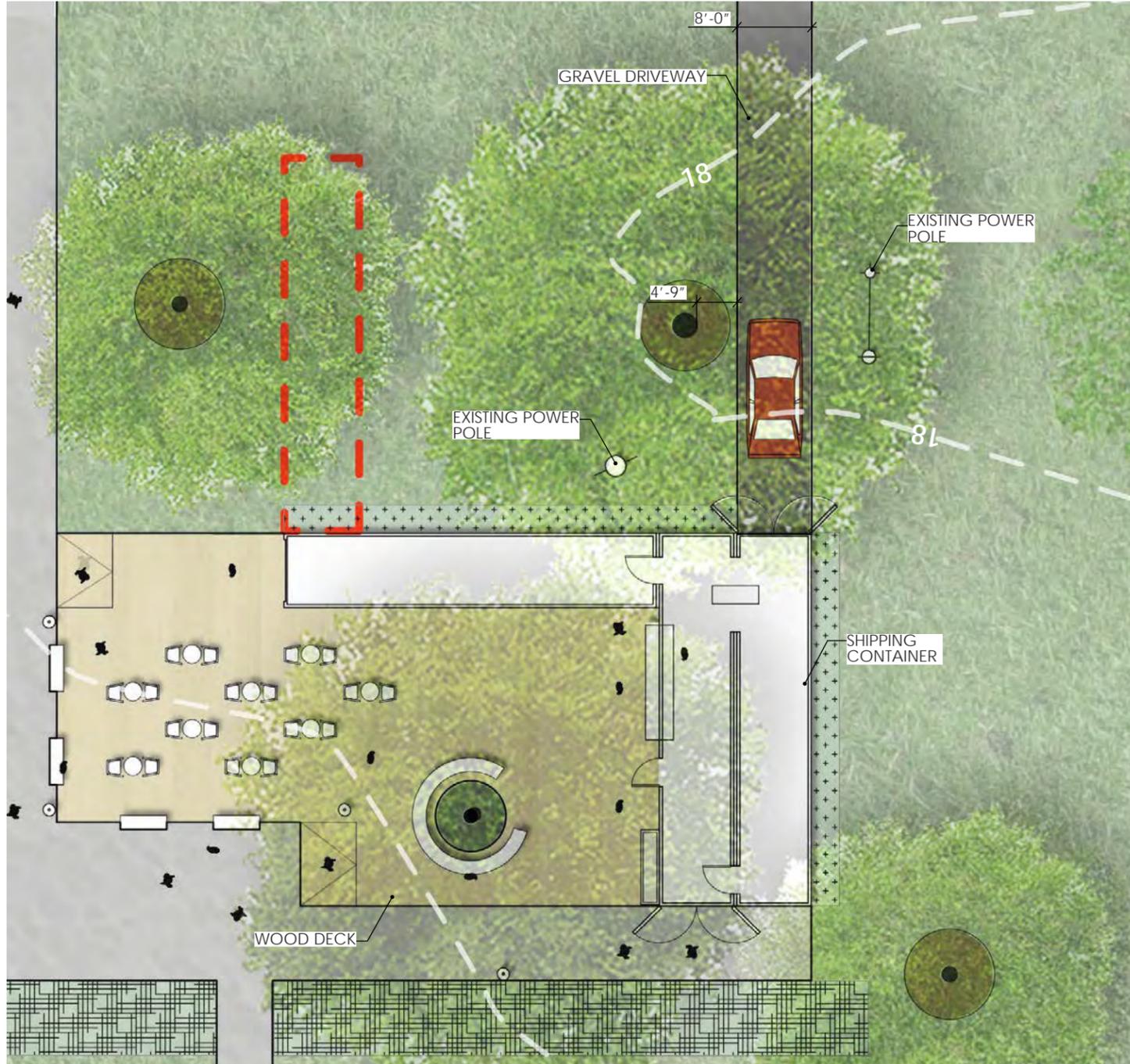
# SITE PLAN



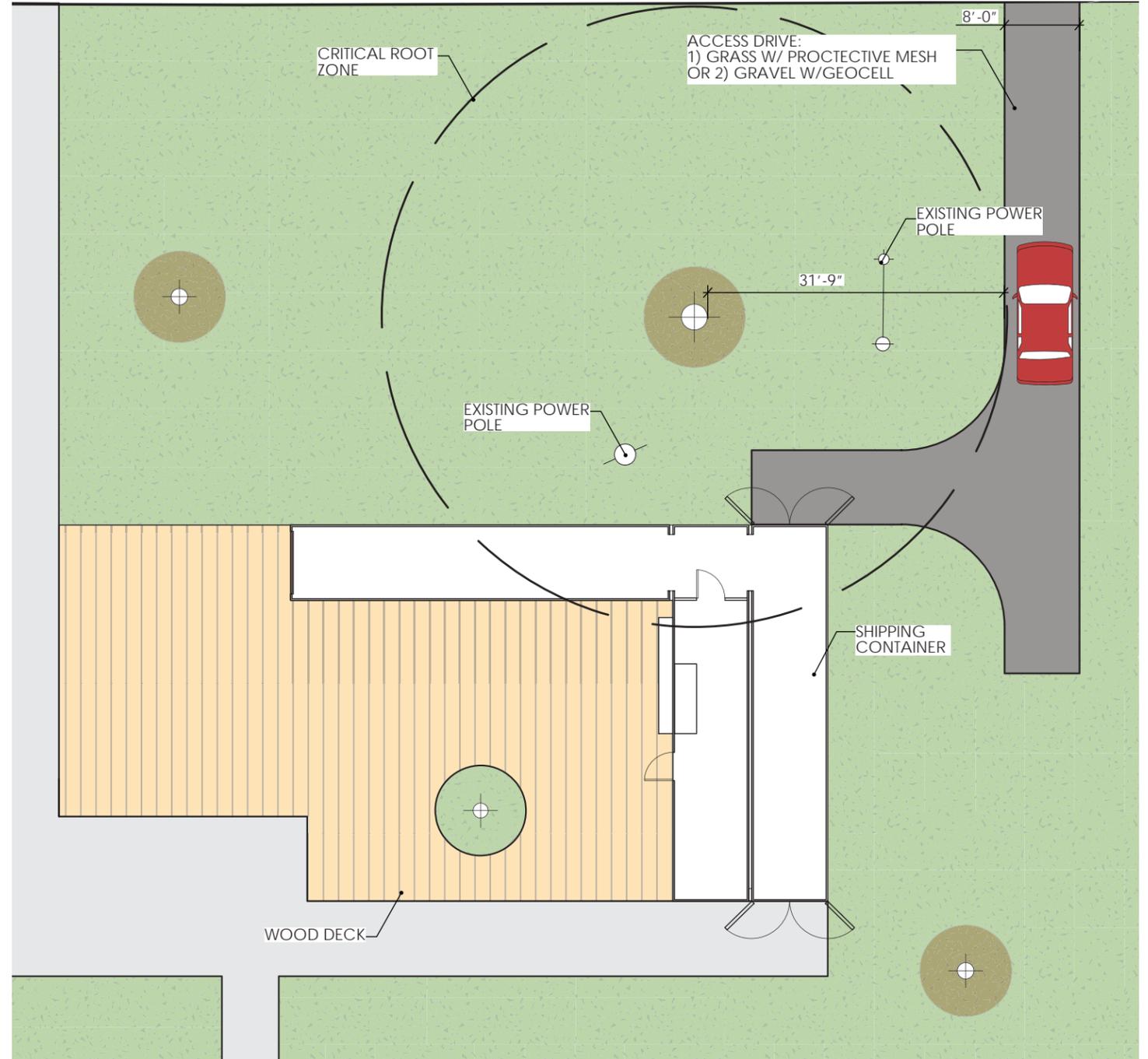
# SITE PLAN ENLARGEMENT



# DRIVEWAY LOCATION

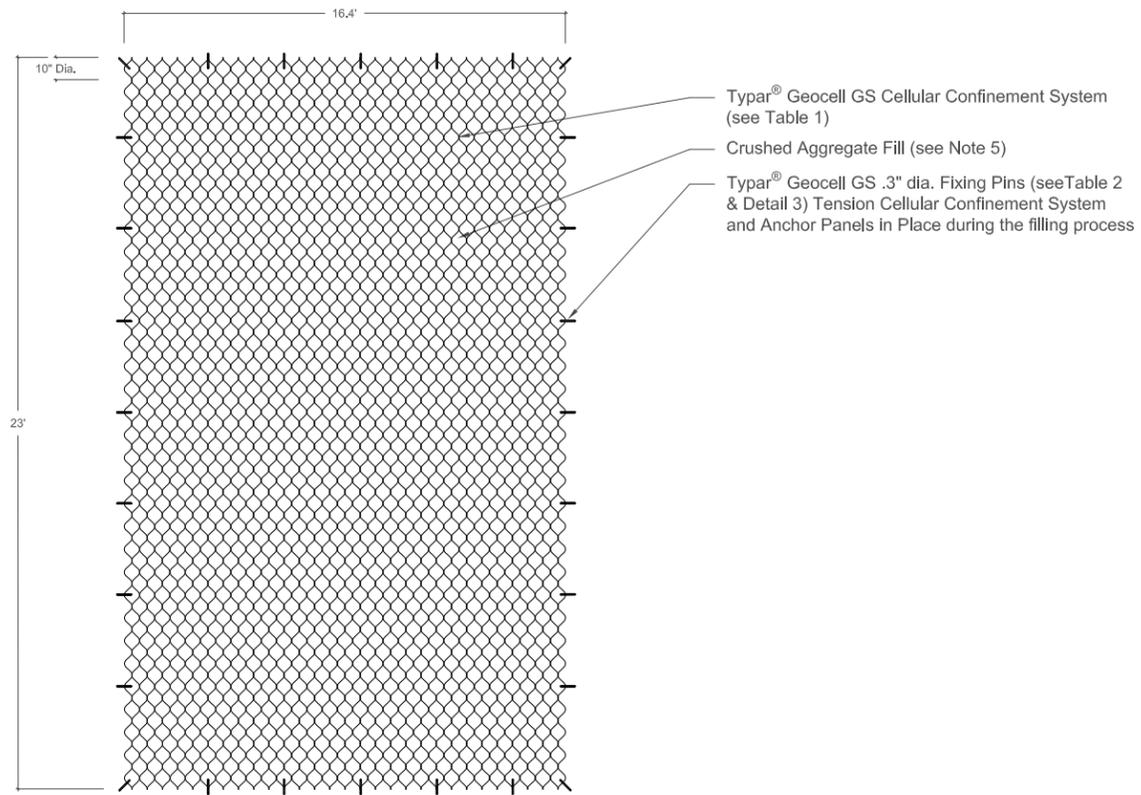


PREVIOUS PLAN: FIRST SUBMISSION



REVISED PLAN: SECOND SUBMISSION

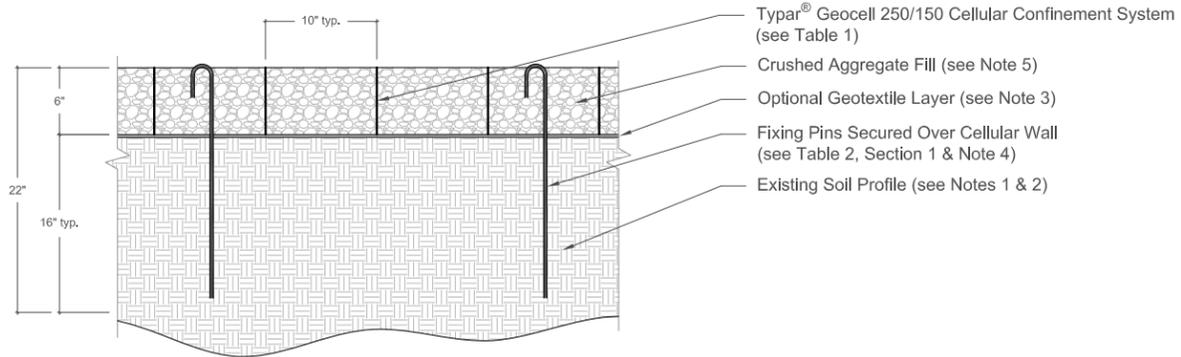
# DRIVEWAY MATERIAL | OPTION 1



1 Typar® Geocell GS 250/150 : Typical Pinning Diagram  
Scale : N.T.S.



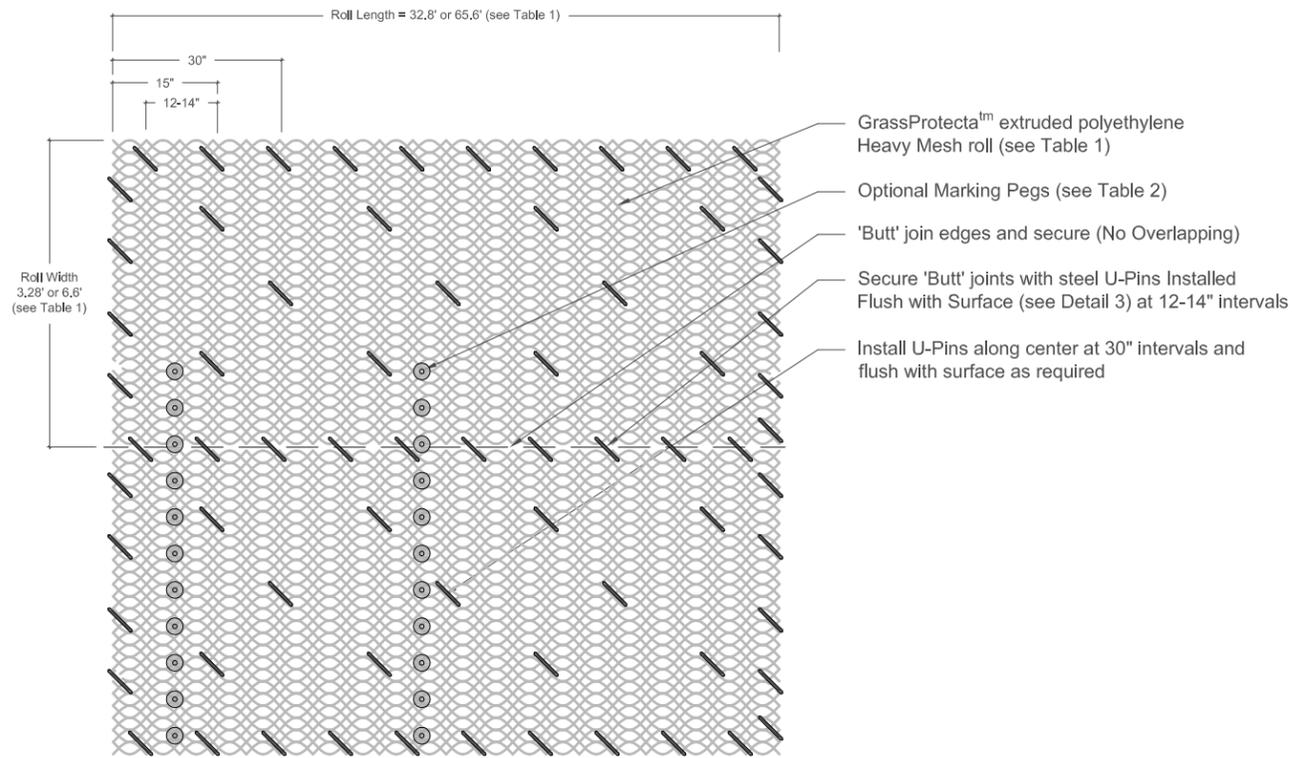
GEOCELL IMAGES



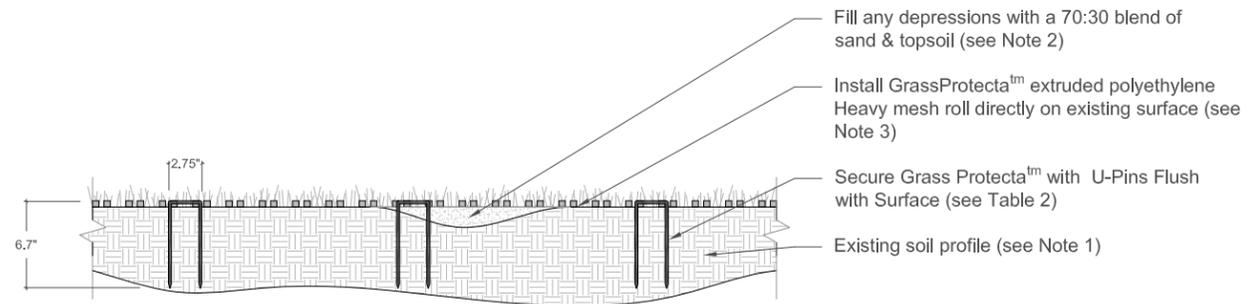
2 Typar® Geocell GS 250/150 : Typical Construction Profile  
Scale : N.T.S.

## GEOCELL DETAIL

# DRIVEWAY MATERIAL | OPTION 2



1 GrassProtecta™ : Pinning Diagram  
Scale : N.T.S.



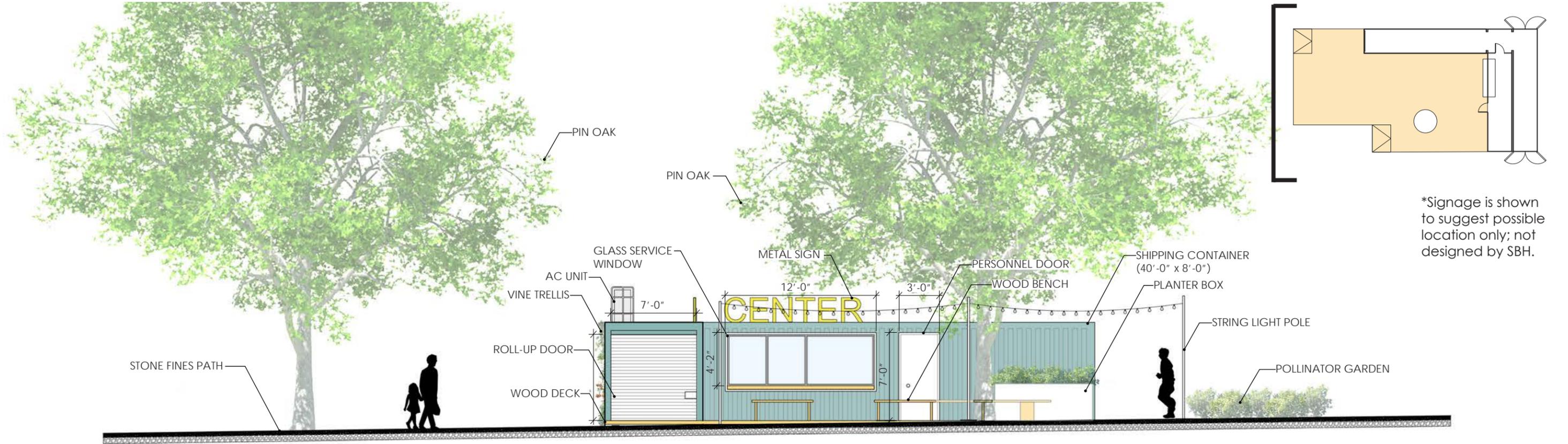
2 GrassProtecta™ : Typical Construction Profile  
Scale : N.T.S.

## GRASSPROTECTA GROUND PROTECTION MESH DETAIL

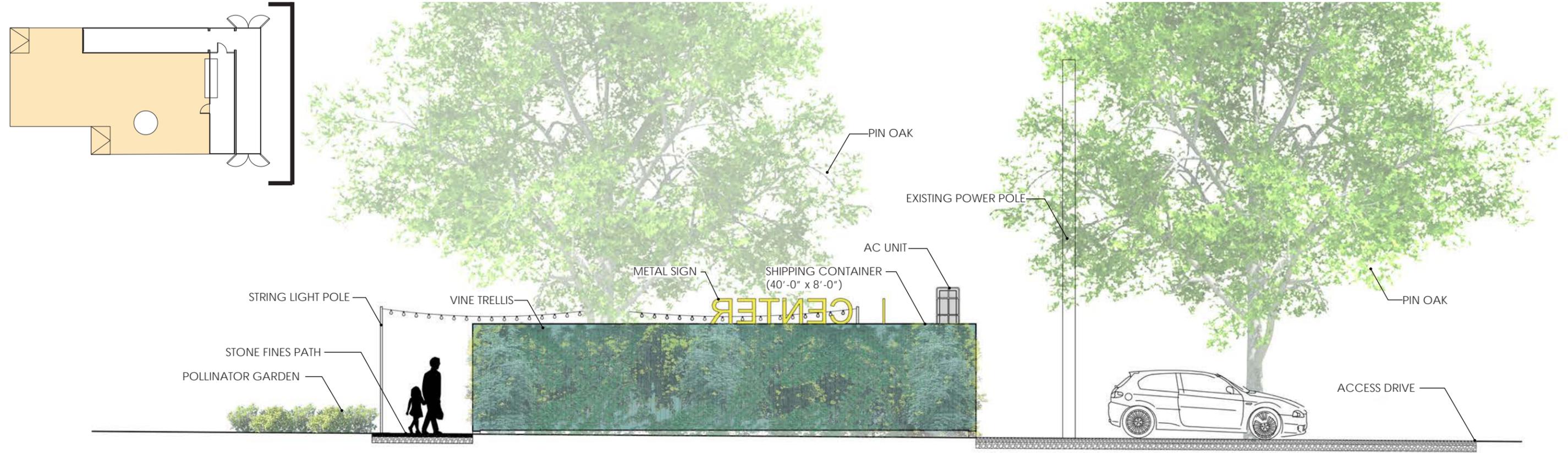


## GRASSPROTECTA GROUND PROTECTION MESH IMAGES

# ELEVATIONS



# ELEVATIONS



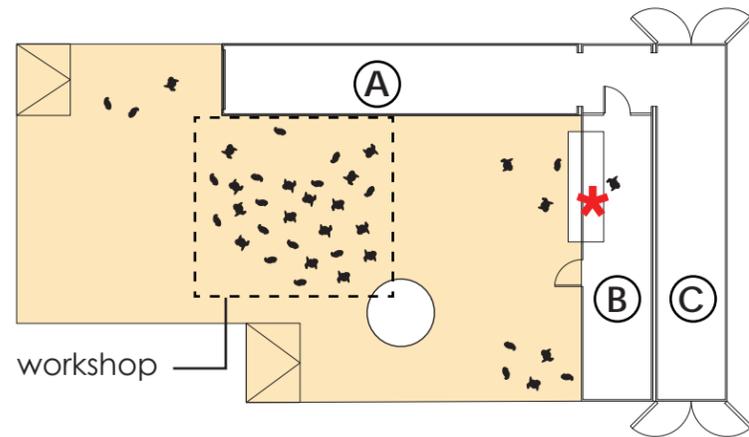
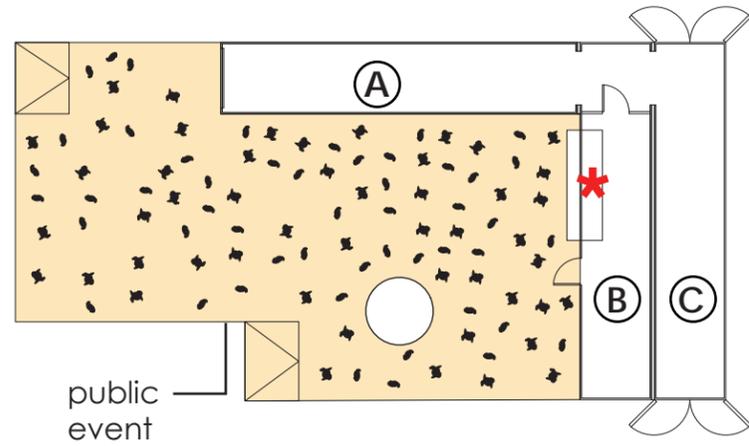
\*Signage is shown to suggest possible location only; not designed by SBH.

# PERSPECTIVE VIEW



\*Signage is shown to suggest possible location only; not designed by SBH.

# CONTAINER OPENINGS



- 2,000 SF DECK
- CONTAINER
- \* WINDOW

Ⓐ



ROLL-UP DOOR

Ⓑ



TRANSACTION WINDOW

Ⓒ



CONTAINER SWING DOORS



PERSONNEL DOOR

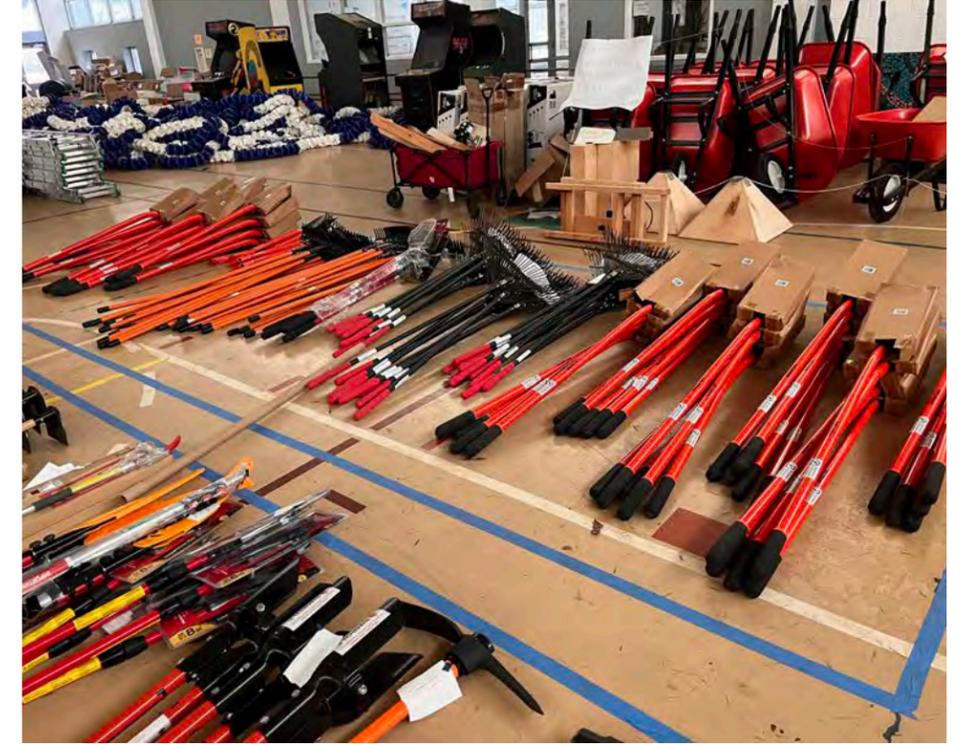
# LENDING LIBRARY INVENTORY (PARTIAL)



VARIOUS SIZED/TYPES OF LADDERS



SEED WINNOWS (EXAMPLE OF LARGE/HEAVY ITEM)



SHOVELS, RAKES, HOES, AND OTHER TOOLS



WHEELBARROWS



GENERATORS, LAWNMOWERS, ETC



SHOVELS, RAKES, HOES, AND OTHER TOOLS

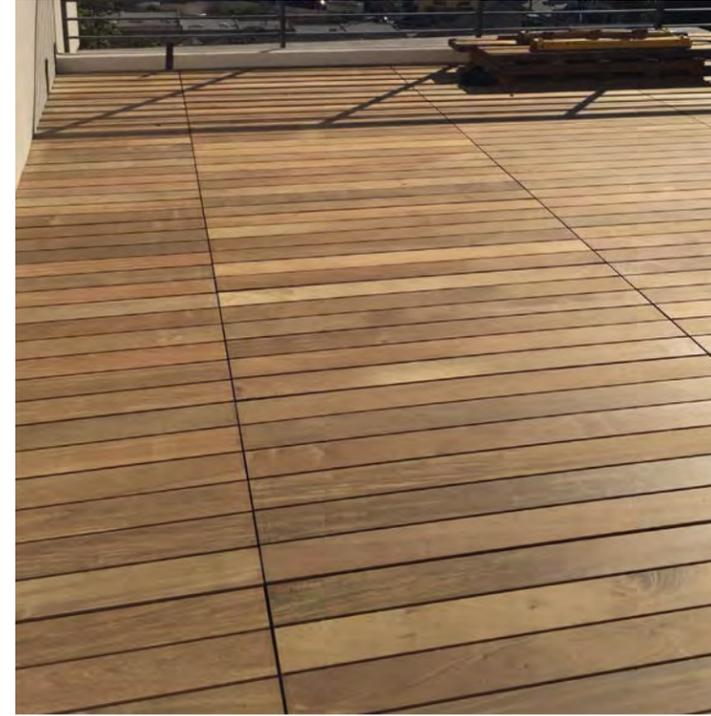
# MATERIALS PALETTE



GRAVEL (DRIVEWAY)



STONE FINES (PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY)



WOOD DECK TILE (2' X 4')



WOOD BENCH AT TREE

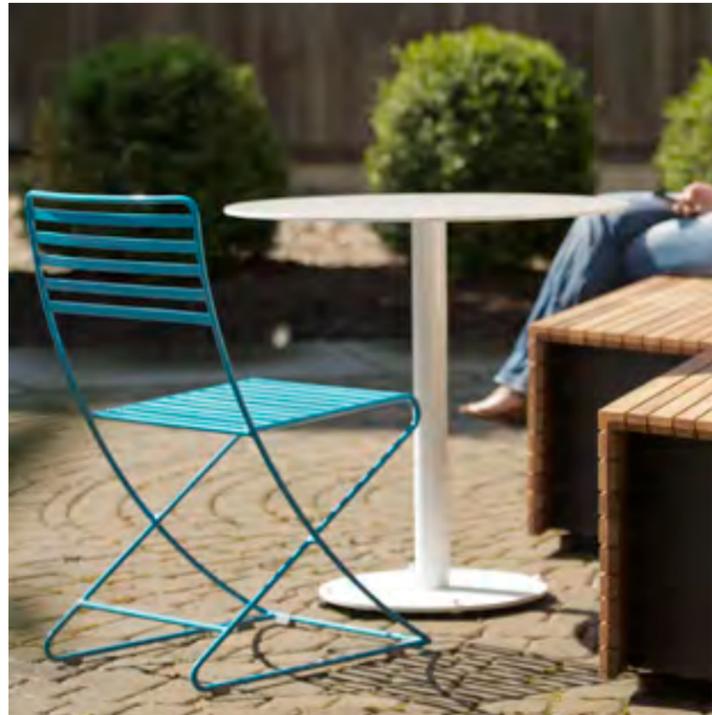
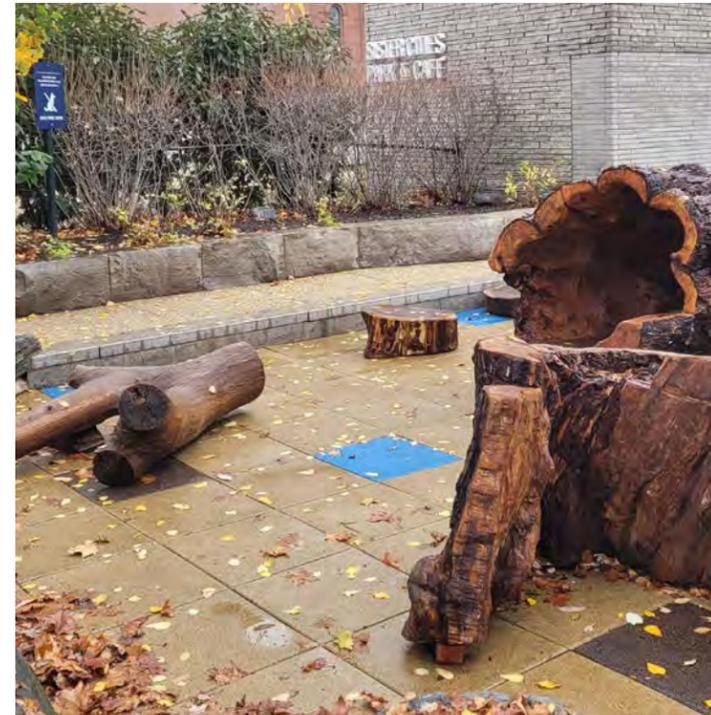


TABLE AND MOVABLE CHAIRS (TO BE CABLED)



STRING LIGHTS



SALVAGED WOOD SEATING  
(FROM RECYCLING CENTER)



PAINTED SHIPPING CONTAINER - GREEN

# PLANT PALETTE

## FOOD CROPS

### POLLINATOR PLANTING



*CEANOTHUS AMERICANUS*

NEW JERSEY TEA



*ILEX GLABRA*

INKBERRY, COMPACTA



*ILEX VERTICILLATA*

WINTERBERRY



*HEUCHERA VILLOSA*

HAIRY ALUM ROOT



*VACCINIUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM*

LOWBUSH BLUEBERRY



*PENSTEMON DIGITALIS*

BEARDTONGUE



*EUTROCHIUM DUBIUM*

JOE PYE WEED, LITTLE JOE



*CONOCLINIUM COELESTINUM*

MISTFLOWER



*GERANIUM MACULATUM*

WILD GERANIUM



*FRAGARIA VIRGINIANA*

WILD STRAWBERRY

### VINES FOR TRELLIS



*CAMPSIS RADICANS*

TRUMPET VINE



*LONICERA SEMPERVIRENS*

TRUMPET HONEYSUCKLE



*GELSEMIUM SEMPERVIRENS*

YELLOW JESSAMINE



*PASSIFLORA INCARNATA*

PASSION FLOWER

# BUDGET

**PROJECT NAME:** Farm Philly Agriculture Resource Center

## **PROJECT BUDGET**

### **SOURCES**

William Penn Foundation - \$ 295,000

Building Resilient Inclusive Communities - \$ 167,053.07

Total Sources \$ 462,053.07

### **USES**

Project Manager - \$130,000

Professional Development - \$5,000

Community Engagement - \$5,350

Indirect/Admin Fees - \$21,000

Design \$ 25,000

Signage (Design/Fabrication/Installation) - \$15,000

Materials & Supplies - \$10,800

Tools Inventory for Library - \$77,553.07

Fabrication & Installation \$172,350

Total Uses \$462,053.07