

SOUTHWEST

Green Line LRT Extension



Kenilworth Landscape Design Community Workshop

August 8, 2015



Meeting Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:45 am: Project presentation
- 9:45 – 11:30 am: Small group/table activities

Today's Topics

- Welcome and Introductions
- What We Heard
- Review Proposed Landscape Design Concepts
- Upcoming Events/Next Steps
- Questions?
- Community Workshop Activities



Welcome and Introductions

What We Heard

Community Workshop #1



What We Heard

- Reinforce the positive existing landscape characteristic of the corridor
- Utilize a native plant material palette within the project area
- Locate bike and pedestrian trails further away from LRT tracks to provide more separation
- Create informal gathering/seating areas
- Develop a long-term strategy for maintenance

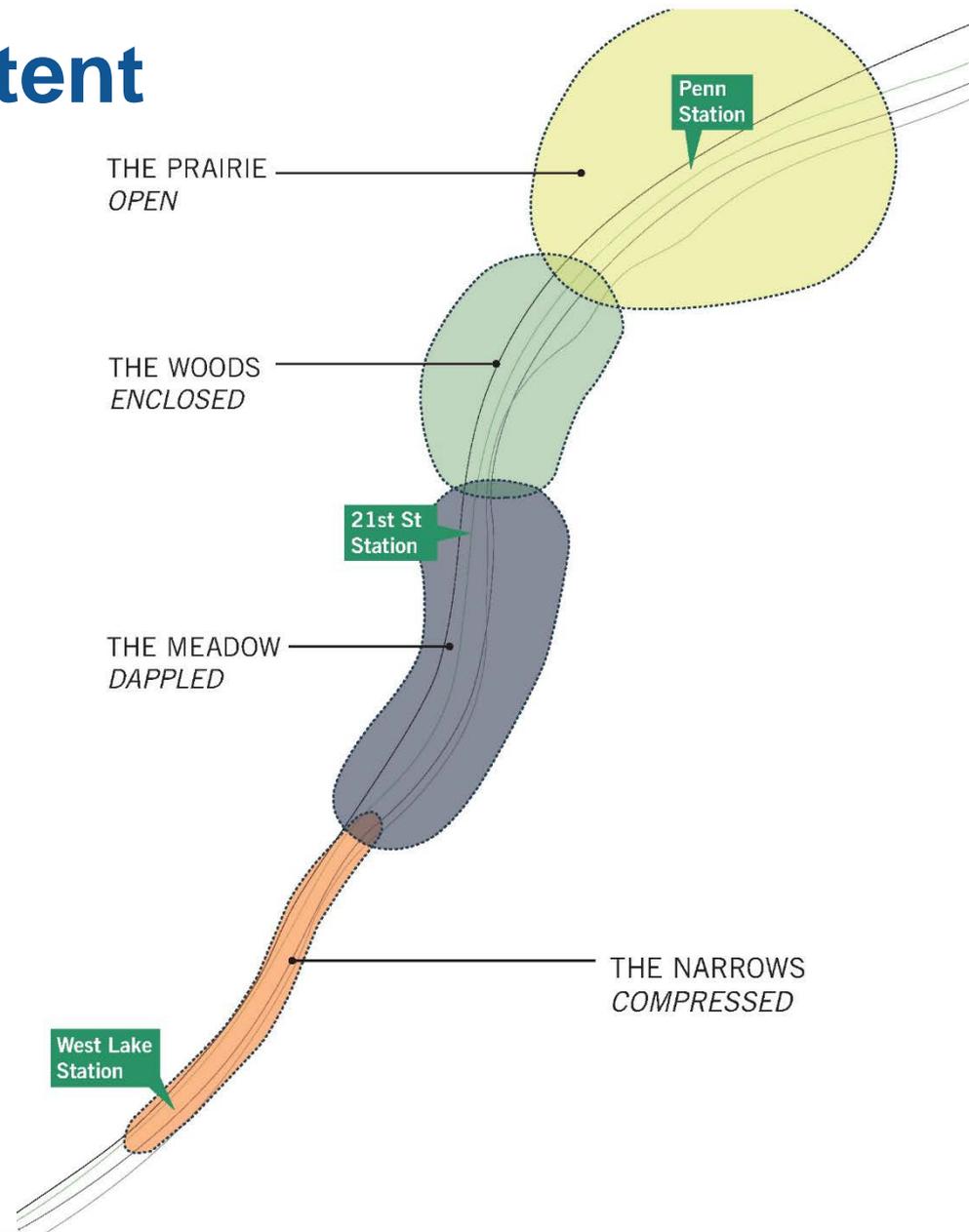
Review Proposed Landscape Design Concepts

Project Scope

- Design of the environment and aesthetic, including landscape elements, re-establishment of the trail system, access, and other urban design elements including:
 - Vegetation: trees, plantings, and ground cover
 - Trails and other hardscape elements
 - Landforms and retaining wall finishes
 - Fencing or barriers
 - Screening
 - Station sites
 - Lighting at station sites
 - Site furnishings

Landscape Design Intent

- Diversity
- Experience
- Ecology and typologies
- Interpretation
- Scale



Design Opportunities

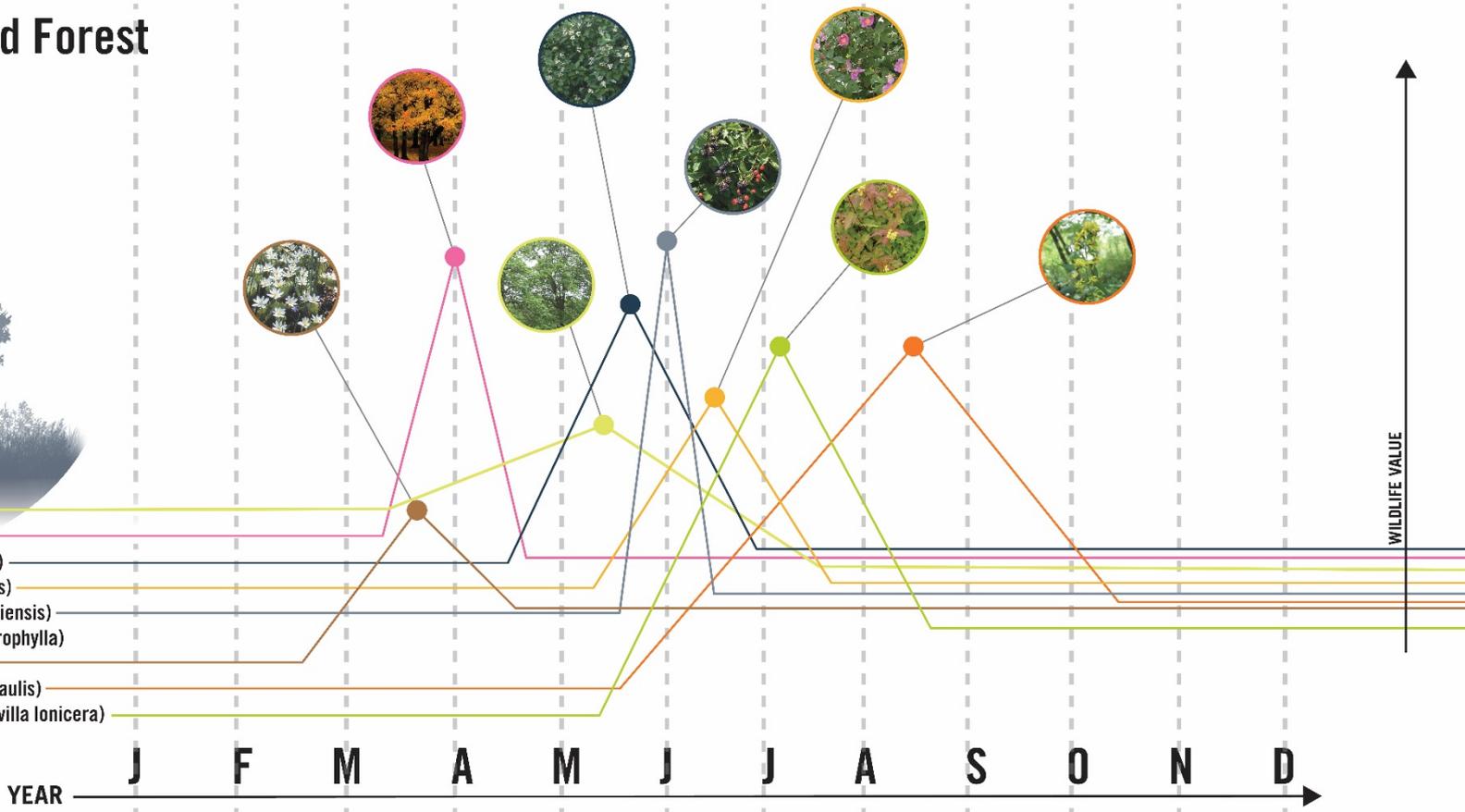
- Vegetation: trees, plantings, and ground cover
 - What ecotypes or plant communities should serve as design inspiration?
 - Oak Savannah
 - Mesic Hardwood Forest System
 - Maple Basswood Forest: “Big Woods”
 - Prairie/Meadow
 - What are the focus areas for landscaping?
 - Restoration of “Limits of Disturbance” (LOD) areas
 - Construction easements
 - Other areas with unique characteristics

Landscape Typologies

Mesic Hardwood Forest

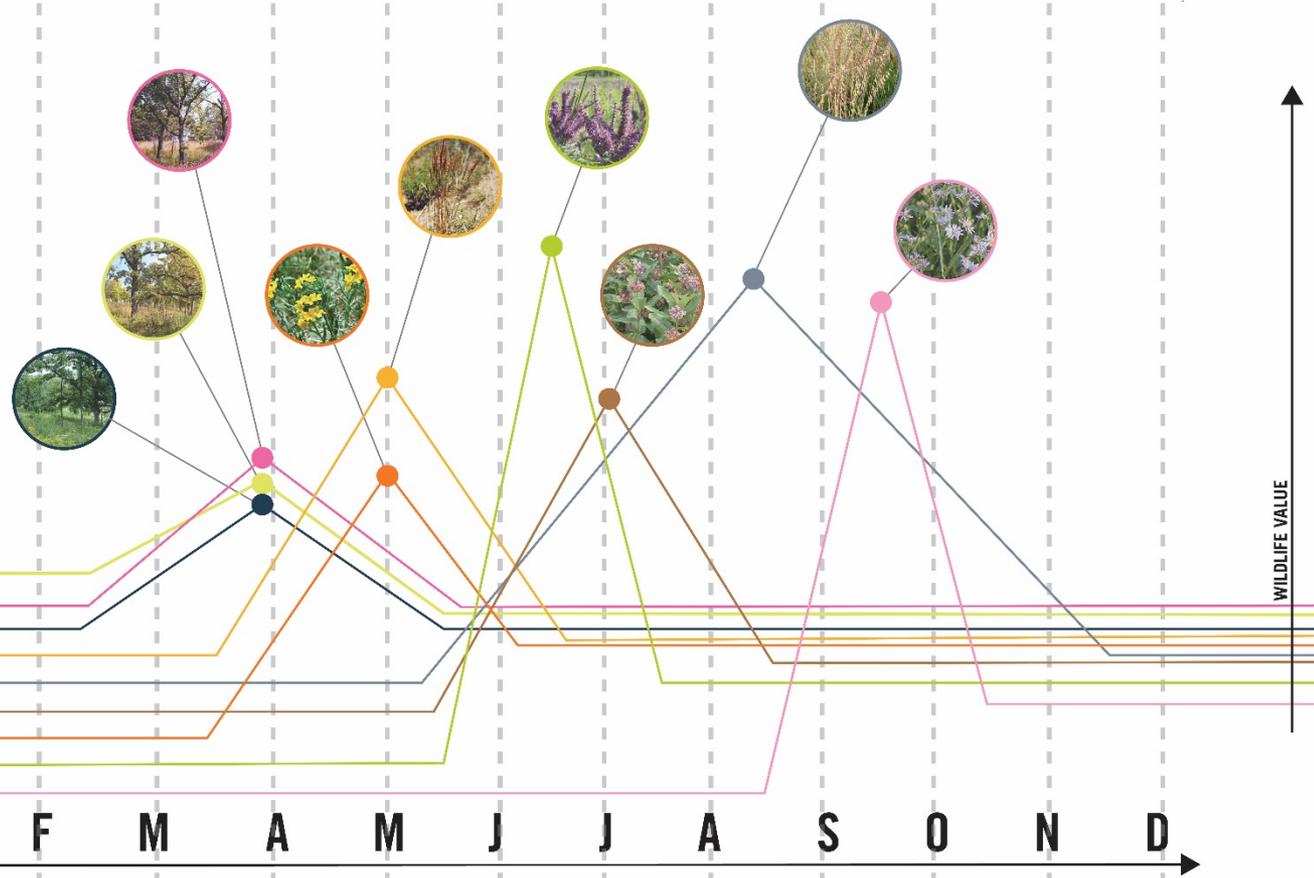
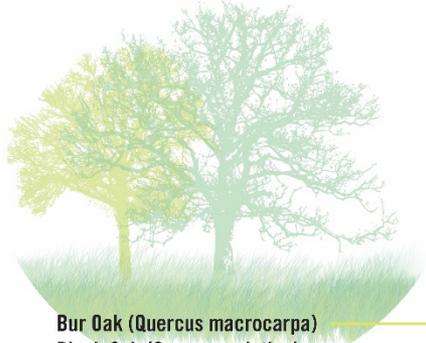


- Basswood (*Tilia americana*)
- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
- Grey Dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*)
- Prickly Wild Rose (*Rosa acicularis*)
- Tall Blackberries (*Rubus allegheniensis*)
- Large Leaved Aster (*Eurybia macrophylla*)
- Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria*)
- Zigzag Goldenrod (*Solidago flexicaulis*)
- Northern Bush Honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*)



Landscape Typologies

Oak Savannah



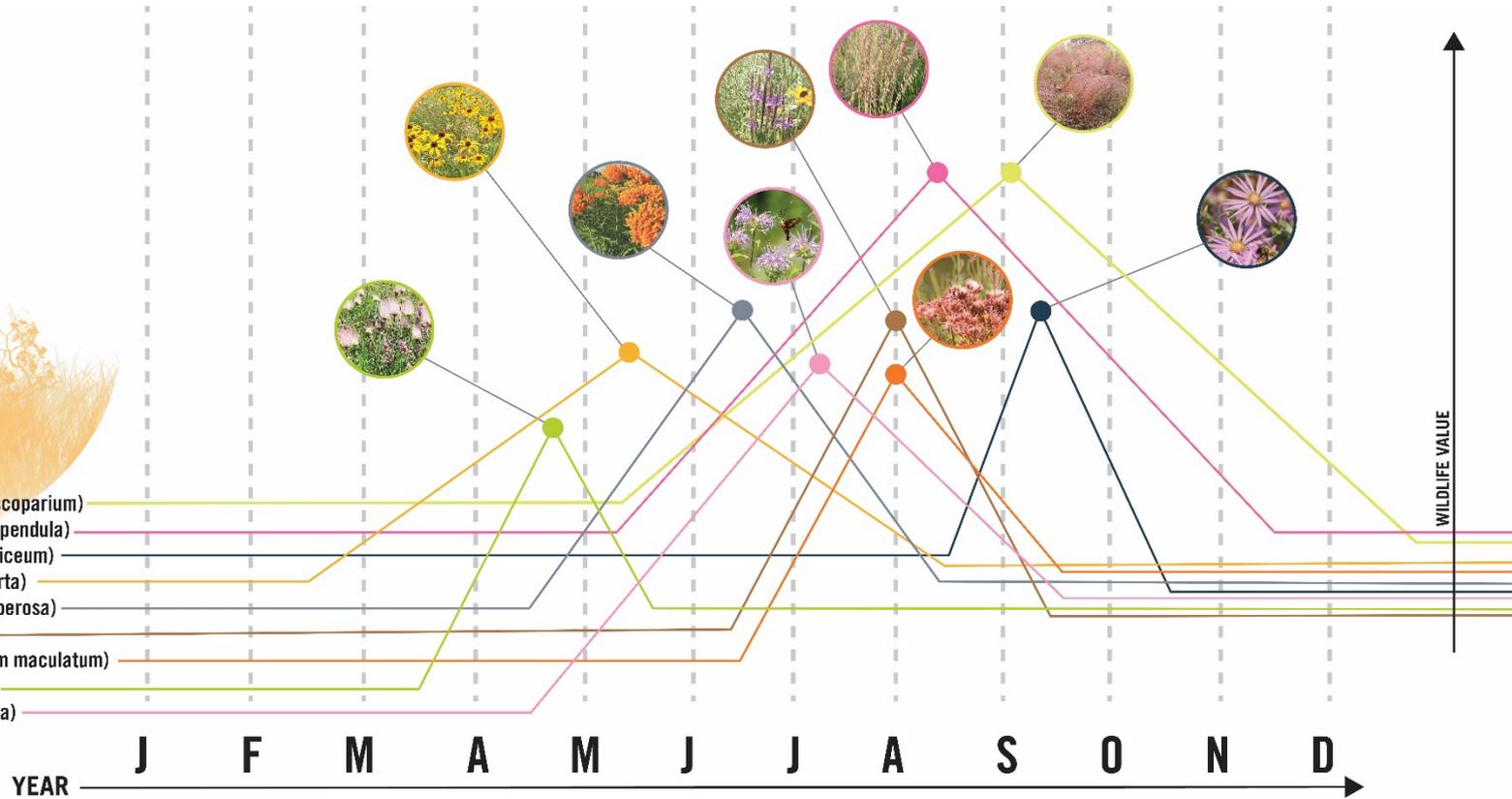
- Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)
- Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*)
- White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
- Prairie Junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*)
- Sideoats Grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*)
- Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
- Hoary Puccoon (*Lithospermum canescens*)
- Leadplant (*Amorpha canescens*)
- Azure Aster (*Symphyotrichum oolentangiense*)

Landscape Typologies

Prairie

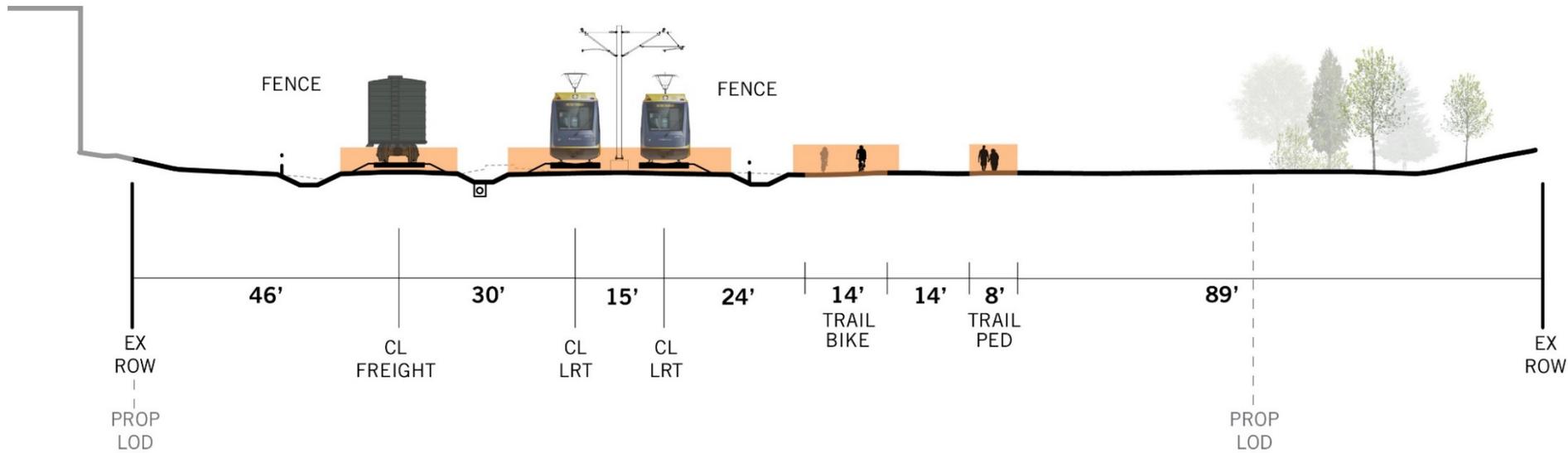


- Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- Sideoats Grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*)
- Silky Aster (*Symphotrichum sericeum*)
- Black Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Hoary Vervain (*Verbena stricta*)
- Spotted Joy Pye Weed (*Eutochium maculatum*)
- Prairie Smoke (*Geum triflorum*)
- Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)



Design Opportunities

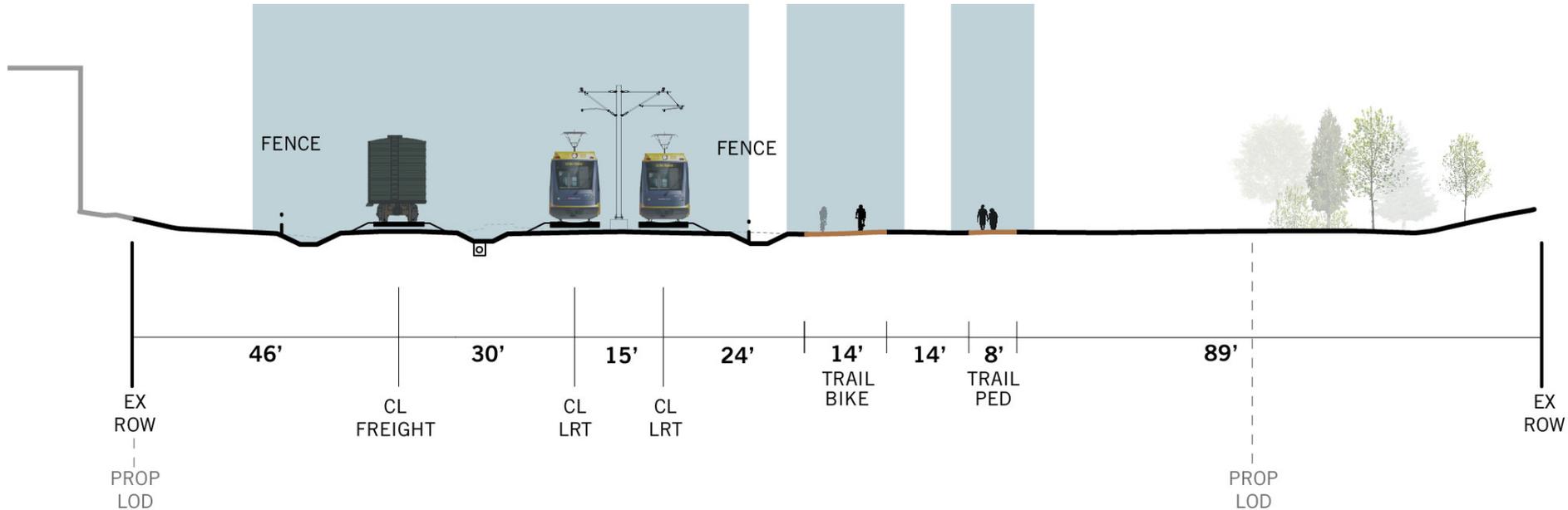
- Areas where ground cover can't be planted in orange



Note: This is one location along the corridor & does not represent landscape planting conditions throughout the corridor.

Design Opportunities

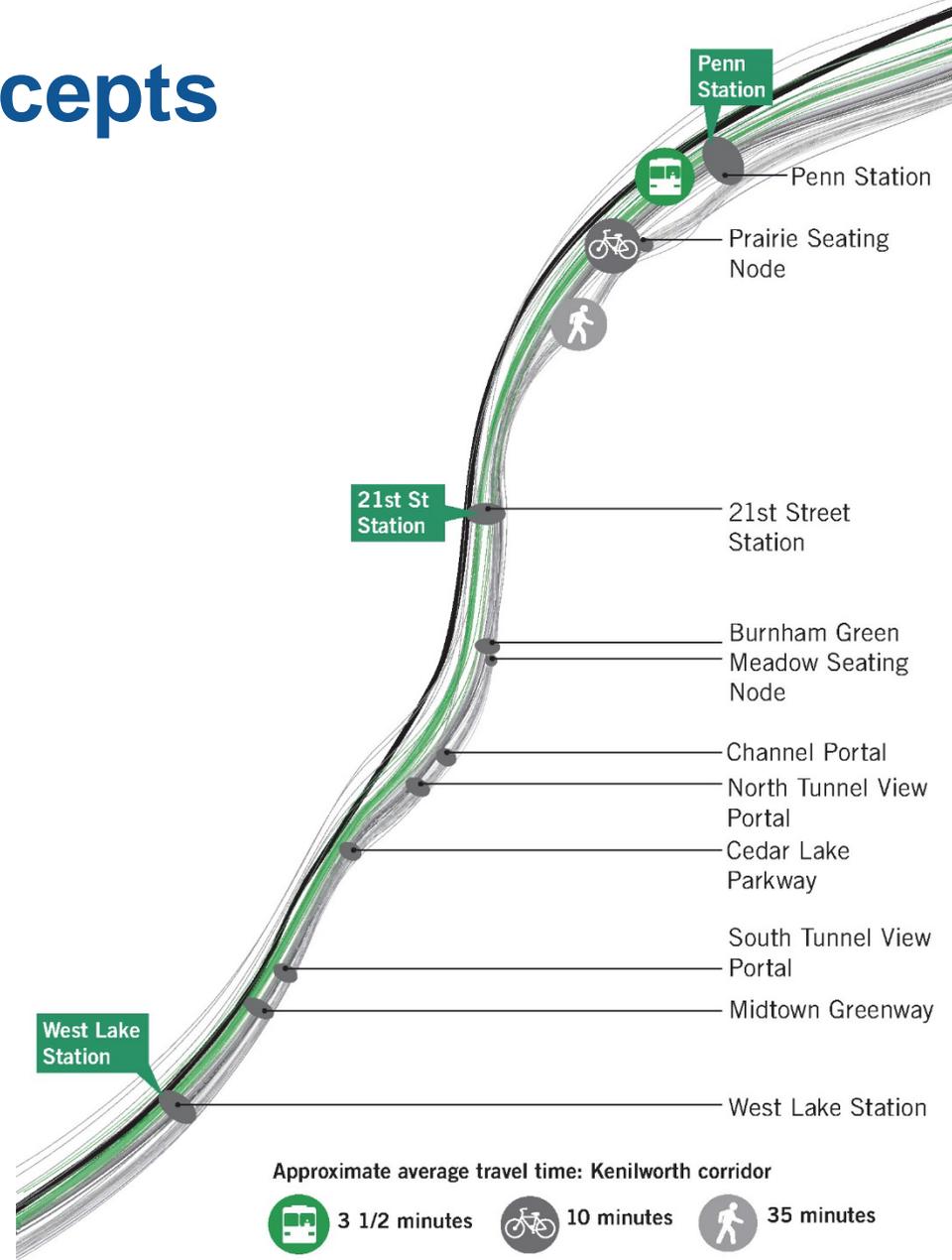
- Areas where trees can't be planted in blue



Note: This is one location along the corridor & does not represent landscape planting conditions throughout the corridor.

Proposed Design Concepts

- Concept A:
“Landscape Passage”



Proposed Design Concepts

- Concept A: “Landscape Passage”
 - Highlights that this is a transportation corridor with landscape improvements that reinforce movement to create experiences
 - Focuses views and reinforces natural character of the corridor
 - Recalls historic railroad history of the corridor through alignment of trails and orientation of landscape
 - Landscape design utilizes plantings in more geometric orientation/layouts

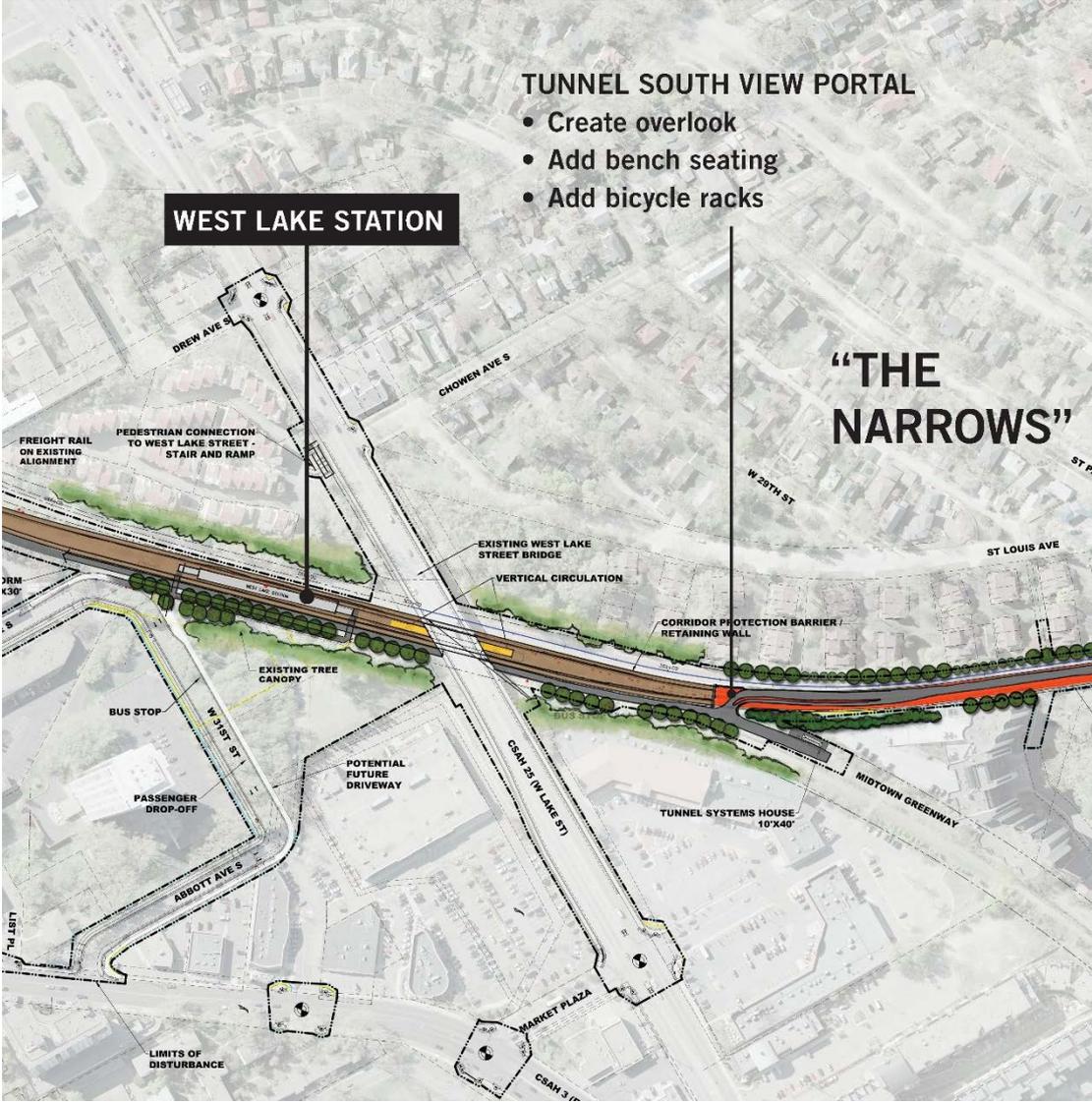
Concept A: “Landscape Passage”

- Strengths:
 - Creates a series of distinct landscape experiences
 - Provides new opportunities to engage with the natural environment and utilizes a native plant palette
 - Incorporates historic, cultural and landscape interpretation
 - Removes invasive plant species in the corridor
 - Provides more trees

Concept A: “Landscape Passage”

- Weaknesses:
 - Removes most existing landscape and reduces overall tree canopy
 - Mature tree canopy will take longer to establish
 - Requires plant establishment and maintenance
 - Provides less budget flexibility to improve fencing, pavements and other

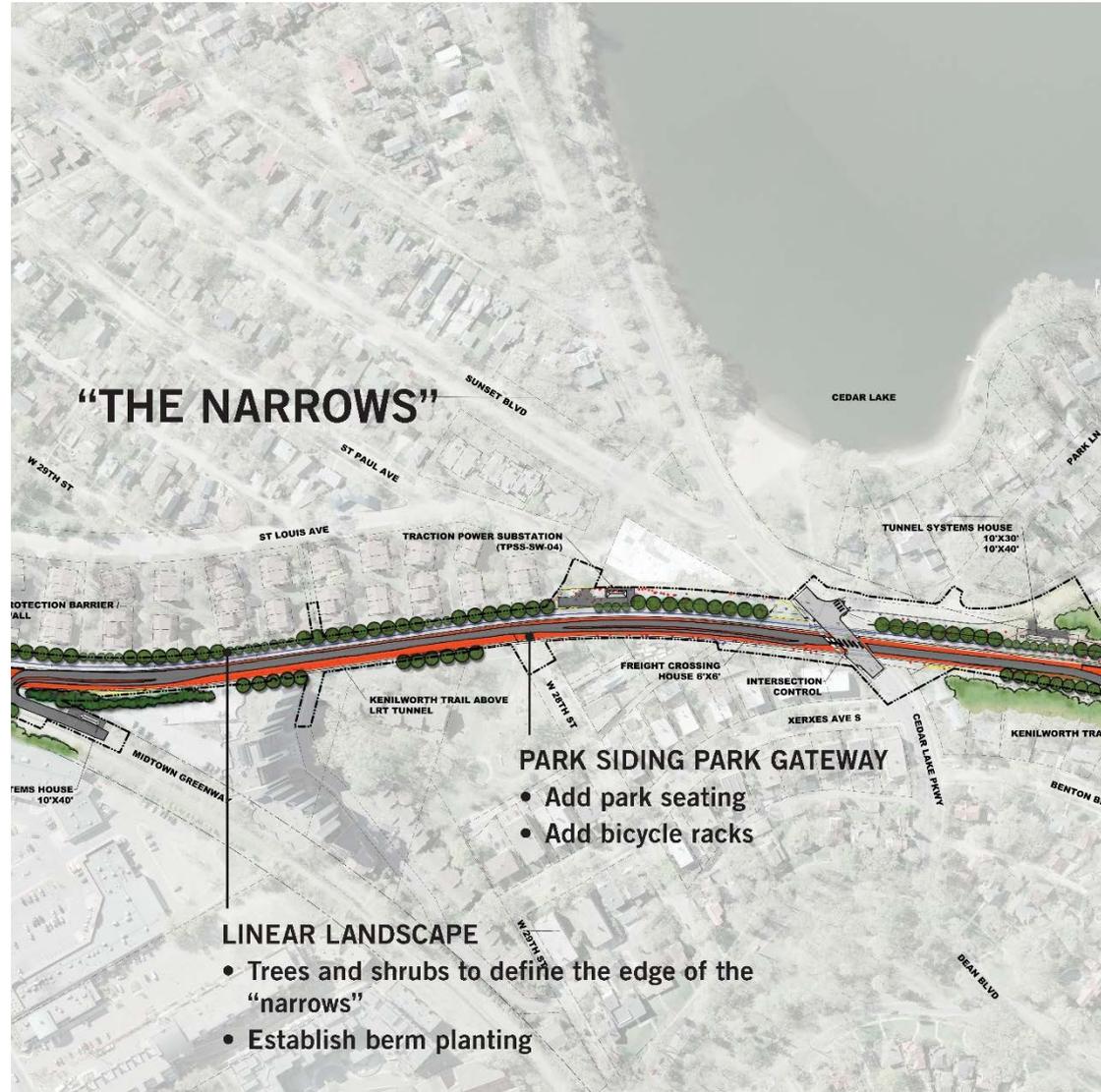
“The Narrows”



Plan Legend



“The Narrows”



Plan Legend



“The Meadow”

TUNNEL NORTH VIEW PORTAL

- Create overlook
- Add bench seating
- Add bicycle racks

MEADOW WOODED EDGE

- Provide flexible landscape areas/ open lawns
- Create extensive tree canopy
- Create pothole prairies



Plan Legend



“The Meadow”

MEADOW LANDSCAPE

- Add flowering prairie landscaping
- Create pothole prairies (Final sizing and location to be determined in advanced design)

“THE WOODS”



“THE MEADOW”

BURNHAM BRIDGE GARDEN

- (under the bridge)
- Shade garden
 - Transition landscape

Plan Legend



“The Woods”



Plan Legend



“The Prairie”



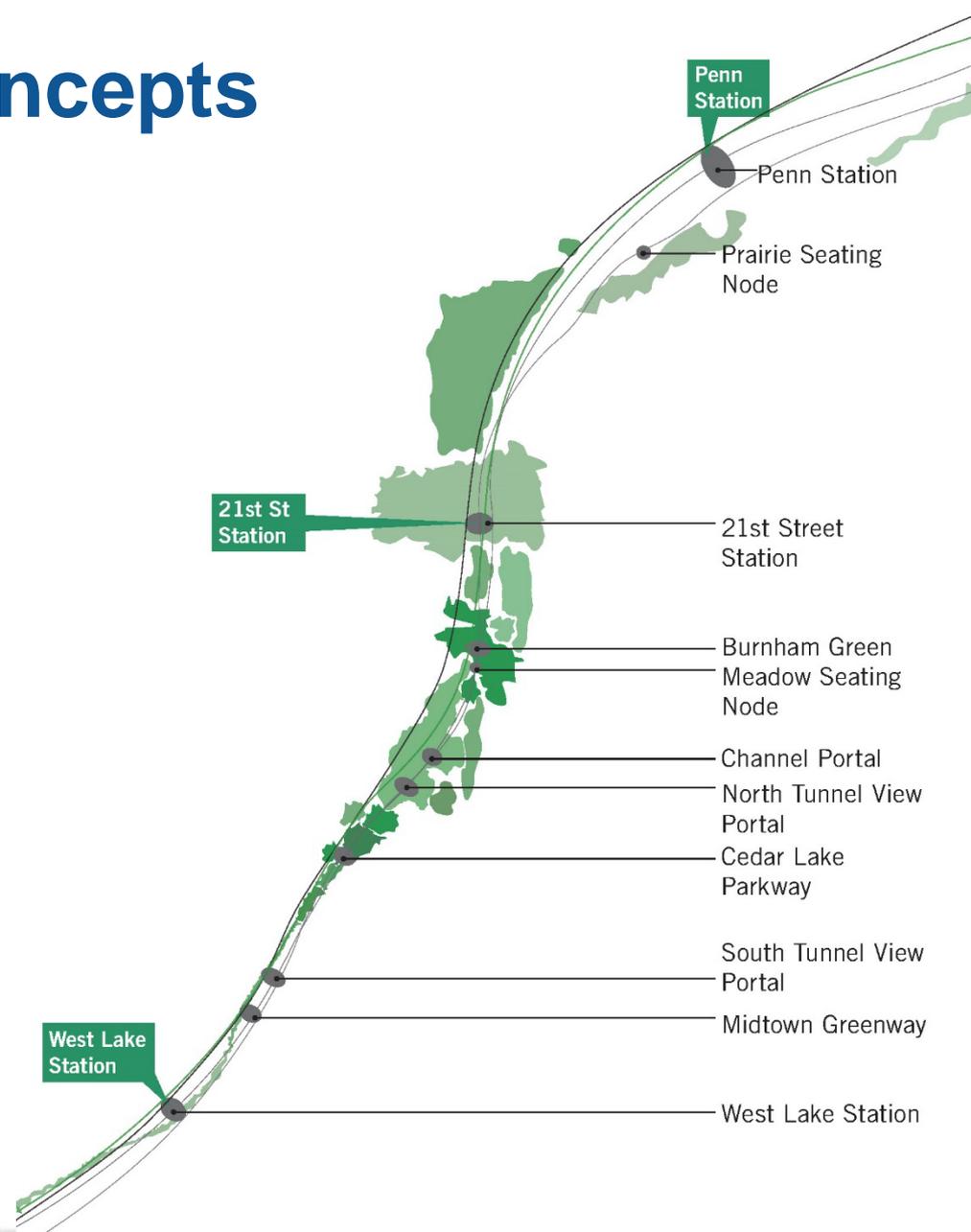
- Restore landscape prairie
- Create pothole prairies
- Add seating nodes

Plan Legend



Proposed Design Concepts

- Concept B:
“Landscape Evolution”



Proposed Design Concepts

- Concept B: “Landscape Evolution”
 - Reinforces and builds-upon existing landscape typologies to create new experiences
 - Concept defines the next evolution of the corridor to a space that balances transportation and the natural environment
 - Creates pockets of enhanced landscape ecosystems along the corridor
 - Stormwater management areas designed to interpret historic location of the east bay of Cedar Lake
 - Landscape design utilizes plantings in more naturalistic orientation/layouts

Concept B: “Landscape Evolution”

- Strengths:
 - Reinforces existing character to create new landscape experiences
 - Provides new opportunities to engage with the natural environment and utilizes a native plant palette
 - Incorporates historic, cultural and landscape interpretation of the east bay of Cedar Lake
 - Removes invasive plant species in the corridor
 - Provides more flexible green space
 - Provides more budget flexibility to improve fences and pavements

Concept B: “Landscape Evolution”

- Weaknesses:
 - Removes most existing landscape and reduces overall tree canopy
 - Mature tree canopy will take longer to establish
 - Requires plant establishment and maintenance
 - Provides less trees

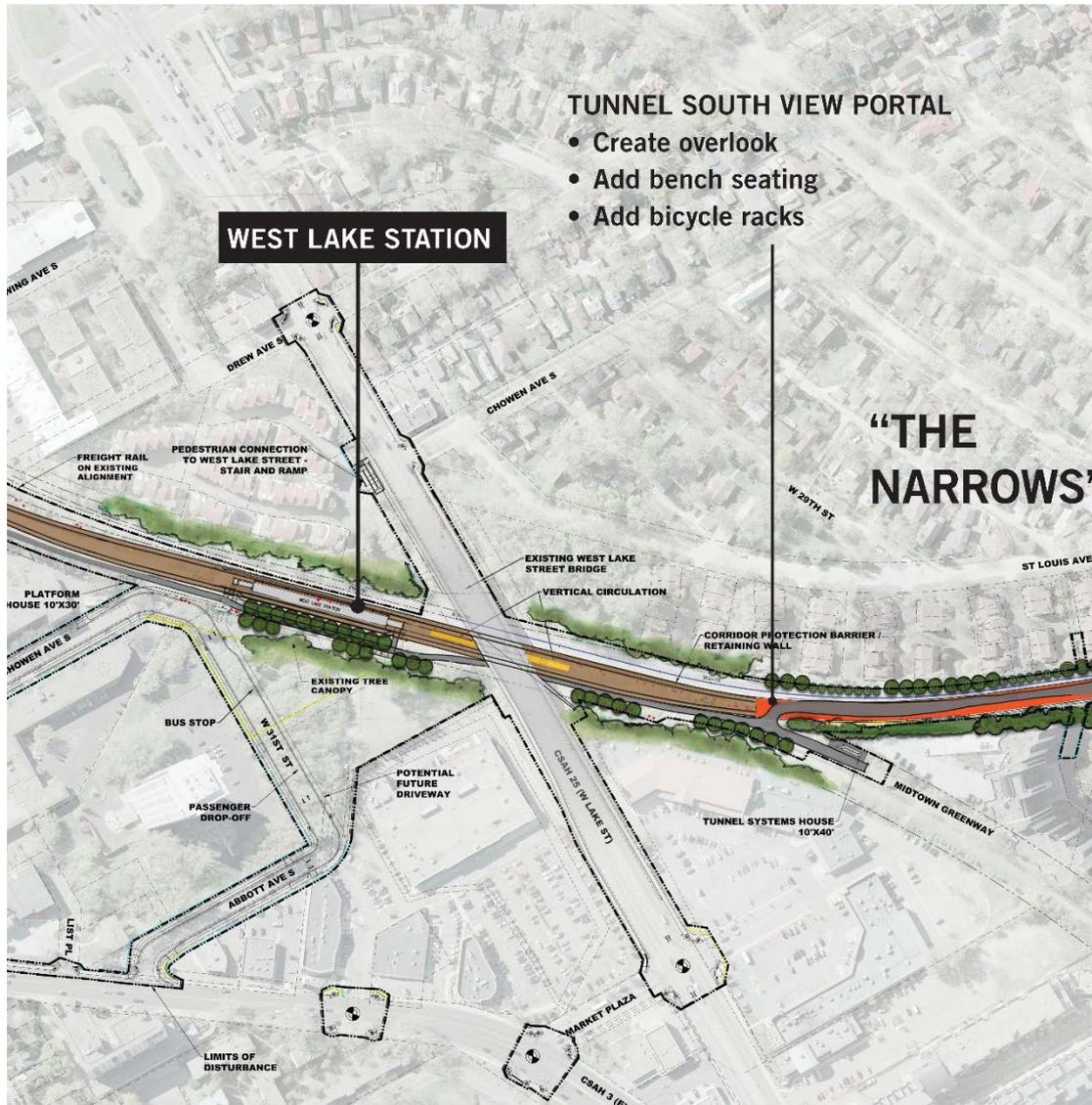
“The Narrows”

TUNNEL SOUTH VIEW PORTAL

- Create overlook
- Add bench seating
- Add bicycle racks

WEST LAKE STATION

“THE NARROWS”



Plan Legend



“The Narrows”



Plan Legend



“The Meadow”

TUNNEL NORTH VIEW PORTAL

- Create overlook
- Add bench seating
- Add bicycle racks

MEADOW WOODED EDGE

- Provide flexible landscape areas/ open lawns
- Create extensive tree canopy
- Create pothole prairies



Plan Legend



“The Meadow”

WET MEADOW LANDSCAPE

- Add flowering prairie landscaping
- Create pothole prairies stormwater features

(Final sizing and location to be determined in advanced design)



“THE MEADOW”

BURNHAM BRIDGE GARDEN

- (under the bridge)
- Create shade garden
 - Transition landscape

Plan Legend



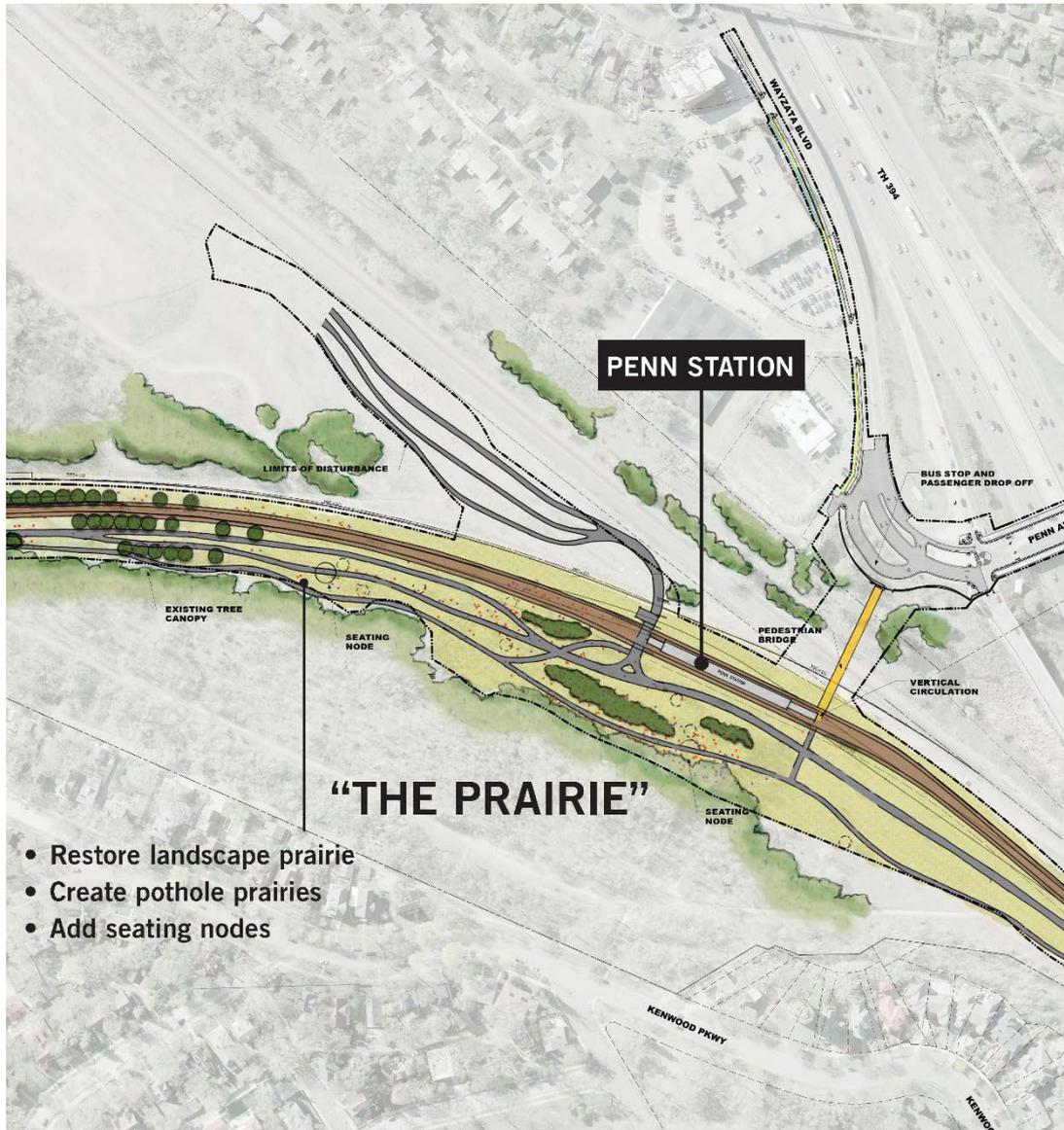
“The Woods”



Plan Legend



“The Prairie”

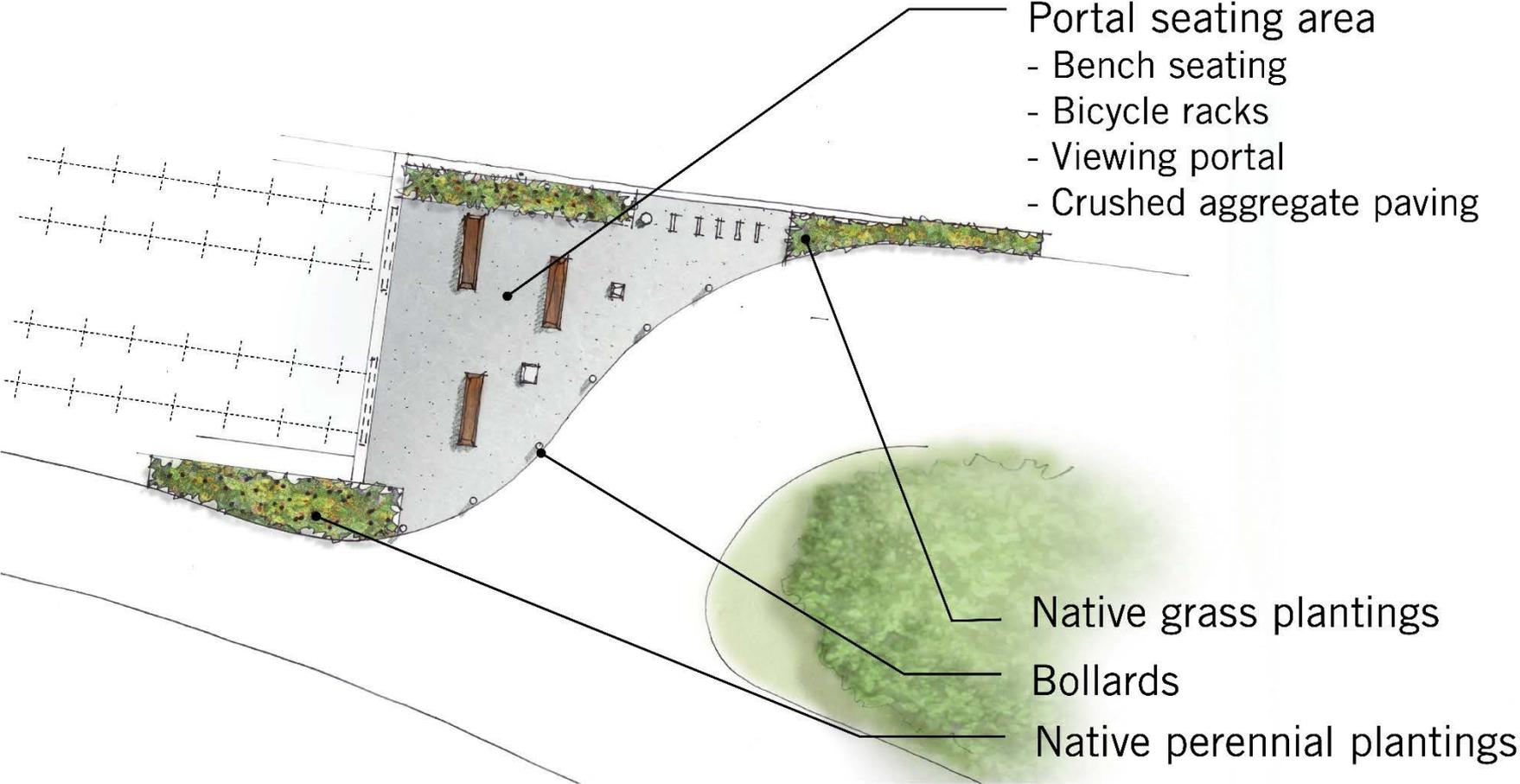


- Restore landscape prairie
- Create pothole prairies
- Add seating nodes

Plan Legend

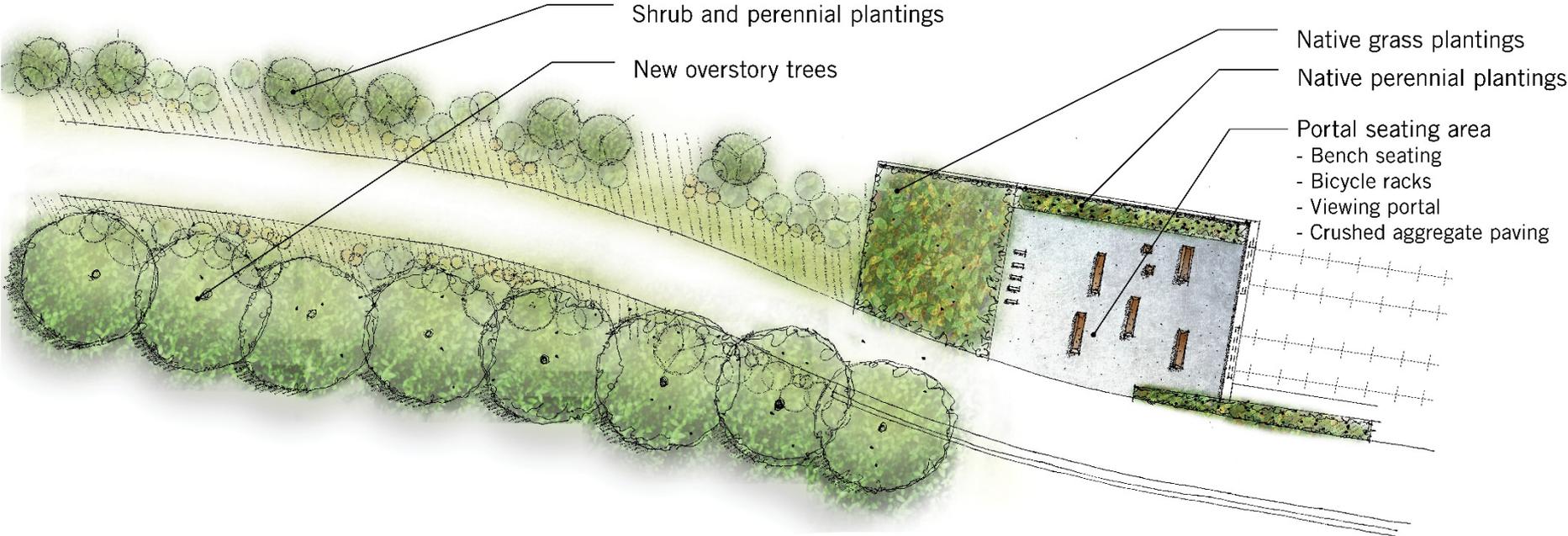


Design Opportunities: Viewing Portals



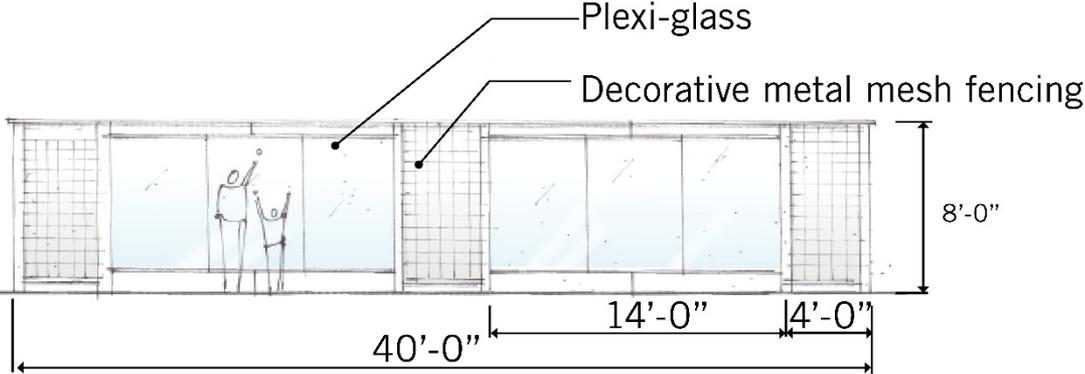
South Viewing Portal

Design Opportunities: Viewing Portals

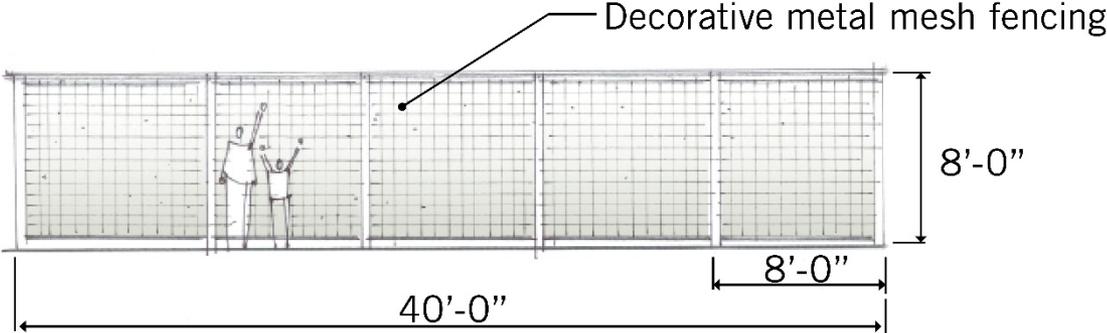


North Viewing Portal

Design Opportunities: Viewing Portals

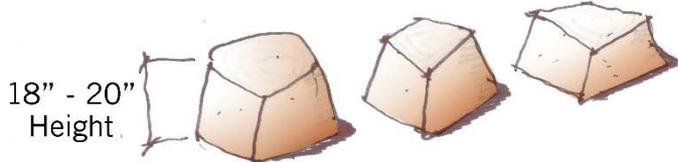
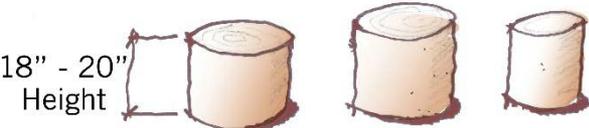
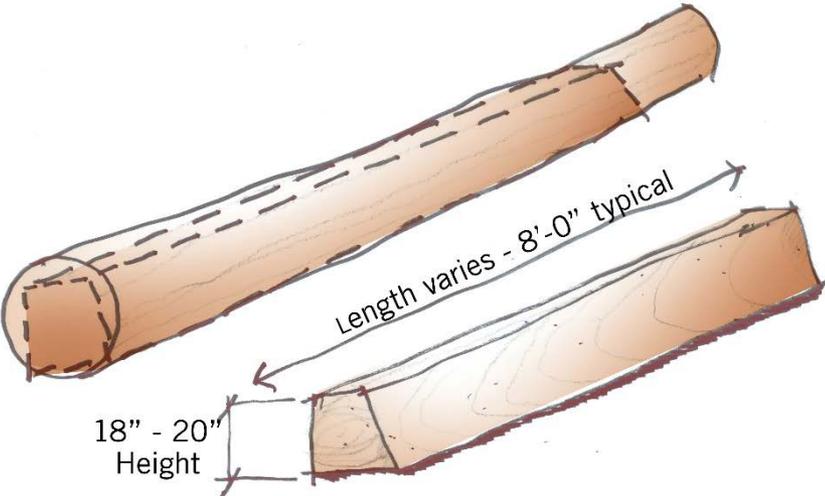


Viewing Portal: Potential Fence Option A



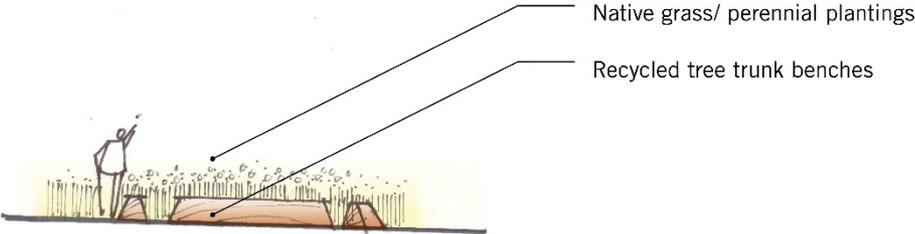
Viewing Portal: Potential Fence Option B

Design Opportunities: Seating Nodes

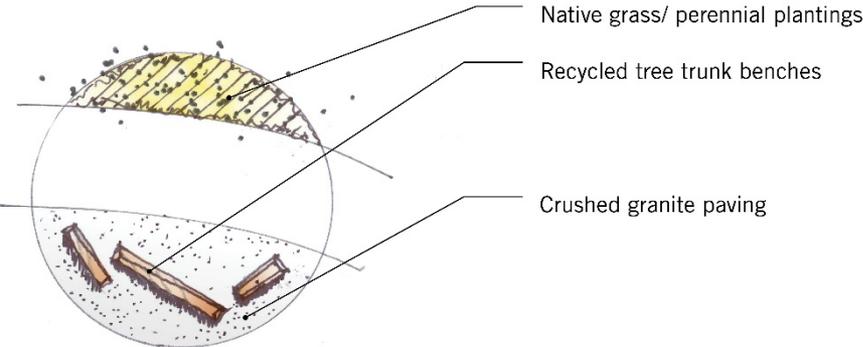


Recycled Tree Trunk Benches

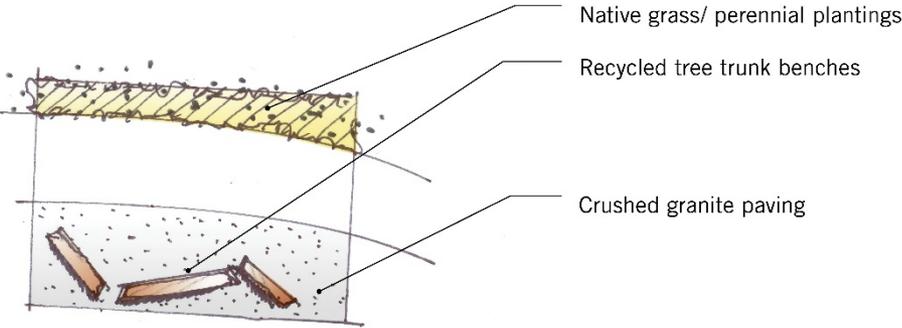
Design Opportunities: Seating Nodes



Cross-Section



Seating Node: Option A



Seating Node: Option B

Proposed Design Concepts: Cost Estimate

- Kenilworth Corridor area landscape budget = \$2.9 M (year of expenditure construction cost)
- Concept A: “Landscape Passage”
 - Estimated cost of landscape improvements = approximately \$2.4 M (83% of budget)
- Concept B: “Landscape Evolution”
 - Estimated cost of landscape improvements = approximately \$2.3 M (81% of budget)

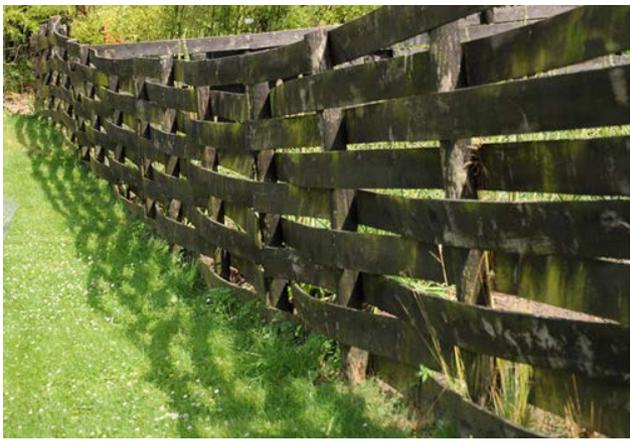
Proposed Design Concepts: Cost Estimate

- Costs include trees, plantings, ground cover, (5) seating nodes, (2) tunnel overlooks and screening of TPSS/signal bungalows/platform/tunnel system house or crossing houses
- Costs do not include:
 - Enhanced pavements
 - Entrance screening of system elements
 - Upgrades to walls or fences
 - Wayfinding or signage
 - Long-term maintenance

Design Opportunities

- Fencing/retaining walls
 - Types of fencing/retaining walls
 - Fence between LRT and trail: Low cost range in base budget
 - Fence between freight rail and LRT: Low cost range in base budget
 - Fence between freight rail and right-of-way (ROW): Low cost range in base budget
 - Fencing at station sites: Mid to high cost range in base budget
 - Wall finishes: Low cost range in base budget

Design Opportunities: Fencing



Low Cost Range (\$35-\$55 LF)

Design Opportunities: Fencing



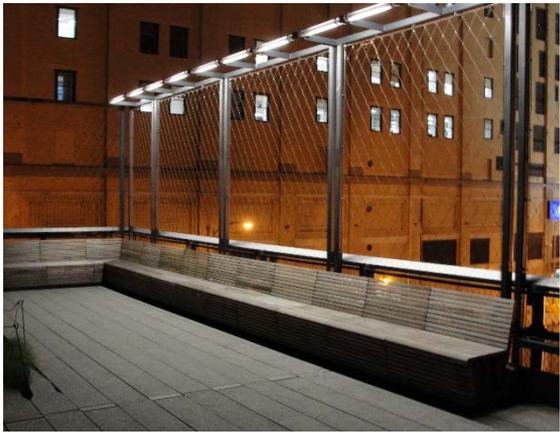
Mid Cost Range (\$70-\$110 LF)

Design Opportunities: Fencing



High Cost Range (\$130-\$180 LF)

Design Opportunities



Custom Architectural Elements: A High Cost Range

Upcoming Events/Next Steps

Upcoming Events/Next Steps

	Topic	Date
Pop-up Events	Present Concept Designs and Seek Input	August 11/13/15, 2015
KSALC	Seek Consensus on Preferred Concept Design	August 24, 2015
KSALC	Present Preferred Concept for Input	September 2015
Community Workshop	Present Preferred Concept Design	October 2015

Questions?

Workshop Activities

Meeting Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:45 am: Project presentation
- 9:45 – 11:30 am: Small group/table activities

Small Group/Table Activities

- Table 1: Design Concept Overview
- Table 2: Design Concept A: “Landscape Passage”
- Table 3: Design Concept B: “Landscape Evolution”
- Table 4: Landscape Design Priorities
- Table 5: Viewing Portals/Seating Nodes
- Table 6: Kenilworth Bridges

More Information

Online:

www.SWLRT.org

Email:

SWLRT@metrotransit.org

Twitter:

www.twitter.com/southwestlrt

