

# City of Richmond Department of Planning & Development Review

### Location, Character, and Extent

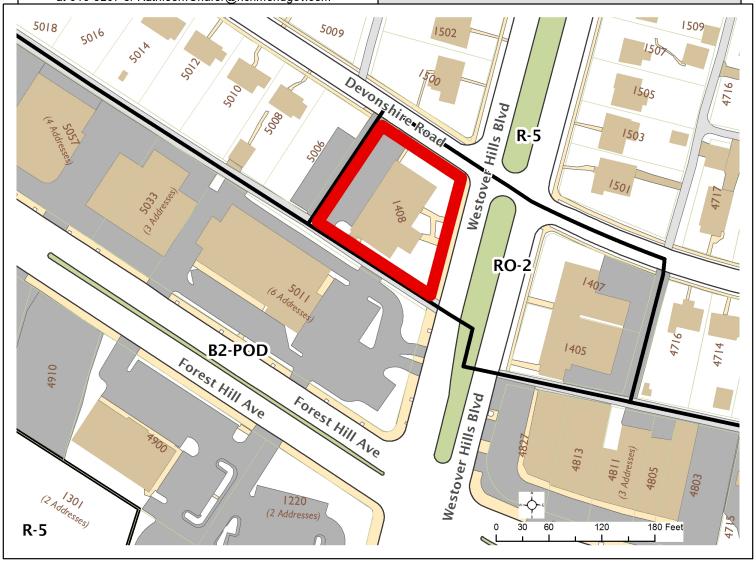
LOCATION: Westover Hills Branch Public Library
Sustainable Campus Initiative

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 4

PROPOSAL: The application for the conceptual review of a master plan for the renovation of the parking lot & exterior landscaping at the branch library, as well as final review of Phase 1 of the project.



For questions, please contact Kathleen Onufer at 646-5207 or Kathleen Onufer@richmondgov.com





### **Application for URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE Review**

Department of Planning and Development Review
Planning & Preservation Division
900 E. Broad Street, Room 510
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 646-6335

http://www.richmondgov.com/CommitteeUrbanDesign

Application Type  Addition/Alteration to Existing Structure New Construction  ■ Streetscape ■ Site Amenity	<ul><li>Encroachment</li><li>Master Plan</li><li>Sign</li><li>Other</li></ul>	Review Type Conceptual Final					
Project Name: Westover Hills Public Library Sustainable Campus Initiative							
Project Address: 1408 Westover Hills Boulevard, Richmond, 23225							
Brief Project Description (this is not a replacement for the required detailed narrative):							
Installation of bioretention basins, stepping stone replacement, vehicular protection strip, streetscape, replacement plantings, benches. Conceptual review of master plan to include renovated parking lot and associated plantings.  Applicant Information  (on all applications other than encroachments, a City agency representative must be the applicant)							
Name: Nancy Buck Email: Nancy.Buck@richmondgov.com							
City Agency: Branch Director, Richmond Public Address: 1408 Westover Hills Boulevard, Richmon	Libraries Phone: 64						
Main Contact (if different from Applicant): <u>Drew Harrigan</u> , LA							
Company: Four Winds Design, LC	Phone: 92	0-5878					
Email: drew@fourwindsdesign.net							

#### Submittal Deadlines

All applications and support materials must be filed no later than 21 days prior to the scheduled meeting of the Urban Design Committee (UDC). Please see the schedule on page 3 as actual deadlines are adjusted due to City holidays. Late or incomplete submissions will be deferred to the next meeting.

#### **Filing**

Applications can be mailed or delivered to the attention of "Urban Design Committee" at the address listed at the top of this page. It is important that the applicant discuss the proposal with appropriate City agencies, Zoning Administration staff, and area civic associations and residents prior to filing the application with the UDC.

#### **UDC Background**

The UDC is a ten member committee created by City Council in 1968 whose purpose is to advise the City Planning Commission on the design of projects on City property or right-of-way. The UDC provides advice of an aesthetic nature in connection with the performance of the duties of the Commission under Sections 17.05, 17.06 and 17.07 of the City Charter. The UDC also advises the Department of Public Works in regards to private encroachments in the public right-of-way.



June 16, 2016

# WESTOVER HILLS BRANCH OF THE RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS INITIATIVE

### **Project Purpose**

The goals of the project include developing a series of Best Management Practices designed to Virginia Department of Environmental Quality standards to infiltrate storm water discharge from impervious surfaces, increasing site safety, and developing an ecologically responsible landscape that can be used as an educational tool. The project strives to be become a model of sustainable site development with the educational component accomplished through the use of interpretive signage, outdoor seating, special library programs, and community involvement and support. Native plants are proposed to replace the dying landscape of non-native varieties that is currently at about a 75% mortality rate. Other functional goals of the project include replacing existing broken stepping stones and addressing the constant damage from delivery trucks driving over the curb and into the site along the alley. The existing irrigation system will also be modified for optimum performance and minimum water output.

Applicants are seeking final approval for Phase One; which includes three bioretention basins, a living streetscape with infiltration value, stepping stone replacement, vehicular protection strip, benches, and plantings throughout.

Applicants are seeking conceptual approval for Phase Two; which includes interpretive signage, replacement of impervious paving with pervious pavers, reordering the current configuration of the parking lot, an urban bioretention basin, rainwater harvesting tank, additional outdoor seating, trash screening, and plantings throughout.

## **Project Background**

The project was envisioned by the Westover Hills Library Advisory Group (WHLAG), a 501(c)(3) association that regularly develops and hosts events at the library for both fundraising and educational enrichment since 1999. The original scope of the project was to develop outdoor seating and replace some dying plantings but upon engagement of a landscape architect the project evolved into a full scale overhaul of the site with the aim of environmental sustainability, education, and enhanced circulation safety. The current layout of the parking lot does not meet city standards, is very unsafe, and does not optimize the number of stalls that could be provided.

The site is located on busy Westover Hills Boulevard, one property north of the intersection with Forest Hill Avenue. There is heavy vehicular and pedestrian traffic on these roads and in the adjacent alley; while the northern boundaries of the site are framed by a private residence and quiet one way Devonshire Road. The project will be part of a network of local storm water management projects that include significant BMP's at

several churches, streamside city property, an apartment complex, and sixty plus private residences. These projects were funded and implemented by joint efforts between The Reedy Creek Coalition and The Alliance for The Chesapeake Bay and enjoyed extensive local community support in terms of volunteer labor and media coverage. Monitoring by RCC in Reedy Creek has suggested that these projects have improved the quality and quantity of water in the creek but much more needs to be done. Predevelopment analysis of the site reveals that the property is 58% impervious; full implementation of the project would take the site to a mere 4% of impervious cover. The property is in a combined sewer district of the city so any storm water diverted from that system would have an immediate and quantifiable impact on storm water discharge into the James River. These are credits the city could apply to their efforts to come into federal compliance with the Chesapeake Bay Act.

### **Phase One Budget and Funding Sources**

The first bioretention basin was completed in March 2015 to take advantage of a matched grant from the Alliance for The Chesapeake Bay that would expire if not used immediately. The first basin was permitted through The Department of Public utilities and there was some confusion between DPU staff and the current applicants about whether any additional city departments needed to be consulted about this project. It is regrettable that proper permitting was not obtained for this basin. Ultimately the grant would have been lost if not implemented immediately as well. This phase was constructed by Outdoor Escapes of Virginia with planting labor provided by the community.

Total Phase One design and construction costs have been formally estimated at \$100,120; currently \$46, 900.00 has been raised thus far. Current funding sources include The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (grant), private fundraising by WHLAG, Four Winds Design (services donations), community members (labor donations), and a private donor. The Executive Director of The Richmond Public Library Foundation applied for a grant from Dominion Power in early 2015 and continues to search for funding sources.

### Phase One Construction and Maintenance Program

A second bioretenion basin and three slabs of reclaimed granite to be used as benches are slated for installation in October of 2016 (currently funded) and will be constructed by Outdoor Escapes of Virginia. The remainder of Phase One will be executed as funds become available. This includes the living streetscape, stepping stone replacement, vehicular protection strip, benches, irrigation modifications and plantings throughout.

The maintenance of this property is administered and funded through Richmond Public Library. A private maintenance company is used for lawn care, mulching, leaf removal, and limited weed control. Primary weed control and maintenance of the irrigation system is administered and funded by WHLAG with additional support from community members and library staff volunteers. The impact of Phase One on the maintenance regime is minimal; two small lawn areas will become planting beds and the bulk of the site that is currently mulched planting bed will remain in this condition with a similar number of plants being installed to replace dead material.

# **Phase Two Budget and Potential Funding Sources**

Total Phase Two design and construction costs have been informally estimated at \$650, 000; currently no money has been raised for this phase. This includes design and engineering, permitting, bid acquisition appropriate to funding sources, and construction. Potential funding sources include The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, The City of Richmond, private fundraising by WHLAG, design services donations, community members (labor donations), community

businesses (materials donations), and other grant sources pursued through The Richmond Public Library Foundation.

### Phase Two Construction and Maintenance Program

Phase Two will be executed as funds become available. A formal proposal for engineering services that outlines the issues and opportunities this project will encompass has been obtained from Timmons Group. Site constraints include significant utilities located in the middle of the proposed parking lot reordering, city property ownership conflicts (the site is two parcels owned by different city entities), and the massive amount of storm water that travels the adjacent alleyway and its associated engineering challenges.

The maintenance of this property will continue to be administered and funded as noted above using a private maintenance company and community members and library staff volunteers. City employees are anticipated to be needed for maintenance of portions of Phase Two, however; any maintenance required for the pervious pavers and parking lot should undertaken by the city professionals who currently maintain other similar properties. It is understood that pervious paver maintenance is a current challenge for the city but the applicants are hopeful that in time that scope of work could be included in parking lot maintenance regimes. The urban bioretention basin may also require city maintenance as it will be connected to the combined storm sewer via an overflow and screening device.

In summary this project represents a grassroots initiative between WHLAG and local environmental nonprofits, businesses, and community members to improve the ecological function of Westover Hills. The site is special because it also offers extensive opportunities for environmental education as a high traffic site and as a library. Phase One of the project will remove 10,355 square feet of impervious surface runoff from the city combined sewer system and replace a fading landscape at no cost to the city. Phase two envisions a completed site treatment as a model for sustainable design.

### Westover Hills Boulevard Curbing for alley traffic Micro Bioretention Basin Basin treats 435 square feet of roof runoff. DCR Level One treatmen Educational Signage Alley Interpretive signs describe the ecological function of bioretention, buffer plantings, heat island reduction, and use Public, of native plants Gutter South Replacement Entrance Existing gutters, which do not adequately handle the volume of roof runoff, are replaced with oversized gutters Bioretention Basin, Phase One Basin treats 2600 square feet of roof runoff. DCR Level One Sunken Filter Strip -Downspouts outlet into a planted strip that filters runoff before it reaches the Bioretention Basin at **North Entrance** the lower end of the system Decorative Walk Weir A water feature transition between the filter strip and th hioretention basin Urban Bioretention Basin -Steel Bridge Basin treats roof and sidewalk **Book Drop** runoff. DCR Level Two Bike Rack Devonshire Road W Outdoor Classroom This gathering space also functions as a location for the Book Festival Event tent **Neighboring Property**

# Richmond Public Library Westover Hills Branch

# 1408 Westover Hills Boulevard Richmond Virginia

# Sustainable Campus Initiative

Master Plan for Conceptual Review 6-16-16 No Scale

The renovation of the campus at Westover Hills Public Library incorporates several stormwater management practices to create a sustainable landscape. Rain gardens and a sunken filter strip capture runoff from the roof by infiltrating water with varying levels of engineering. The downspouts will be disconnected from the combined sewer system with roof runoff conveyed to basins by above ground troughs. Pervious pavement infiltrates water from impervious surfaces while a rainwater collection tank harvests roof runoff for irrigation. Collectively these practices would transform the site from a fifty-eight percent impervious site to a four percent impervious site.

Native plants have also been used to create beautiful garden spaces and colorful buffer plantings. The existing oak trees will be protected during construction and contribute to the biodiversity and wildlife habitat of the site.

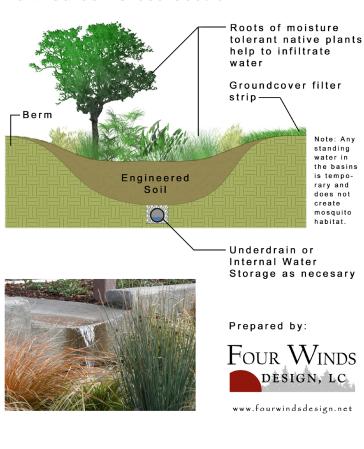
The parking lot has been re-designed to meet city standard dimensions with sidewalks and curbing added for pedstrian safety. Additional bike storage has also been added.

Excavated soil from basins is used to sculpt mounds that define gathering spaces for outdoor classrooms or tented events. Interpretive signs explain the function of the site as a living system. Additional site features such the decorative weir and steel bridge also underline the identity of this unique model site.

The infiltration of stormwater on site lessens the volume of water and pollutants that enter the James River. This project is part of a neighborhood initiative to protect the Reedy Creek Watershed and is funded by The Alliance for The Chesapeake Bay, Westover Hills Library Advisory Group, and private donors.



#### Rain Garden Cross Section



# Living Streetscape

Shrubs and herbaceous perennials capture sidewalk runoff and infiltrate stormwater.

## Micro Bioretention Basin, Phase One

Basin treats 921 square feet of roof runoff. DCR Level One treatment.



# Pervious Pavement

Concrete is replaced with pavers or pervious concrete, infiltrating stormwater and marking the entrances to the site.

### Rainwater Harvesting

A decorative collection tank captures roof runoff for use in irrigation.

#### **Utility Area**

Evergreen plantings conceal the utility area and proposed pad for trash and recycling containers.

# Urban Bioretention Basin

Basin treats roof and sidewalk runoff. DCR Level Two treatment.

### -Parking Lot

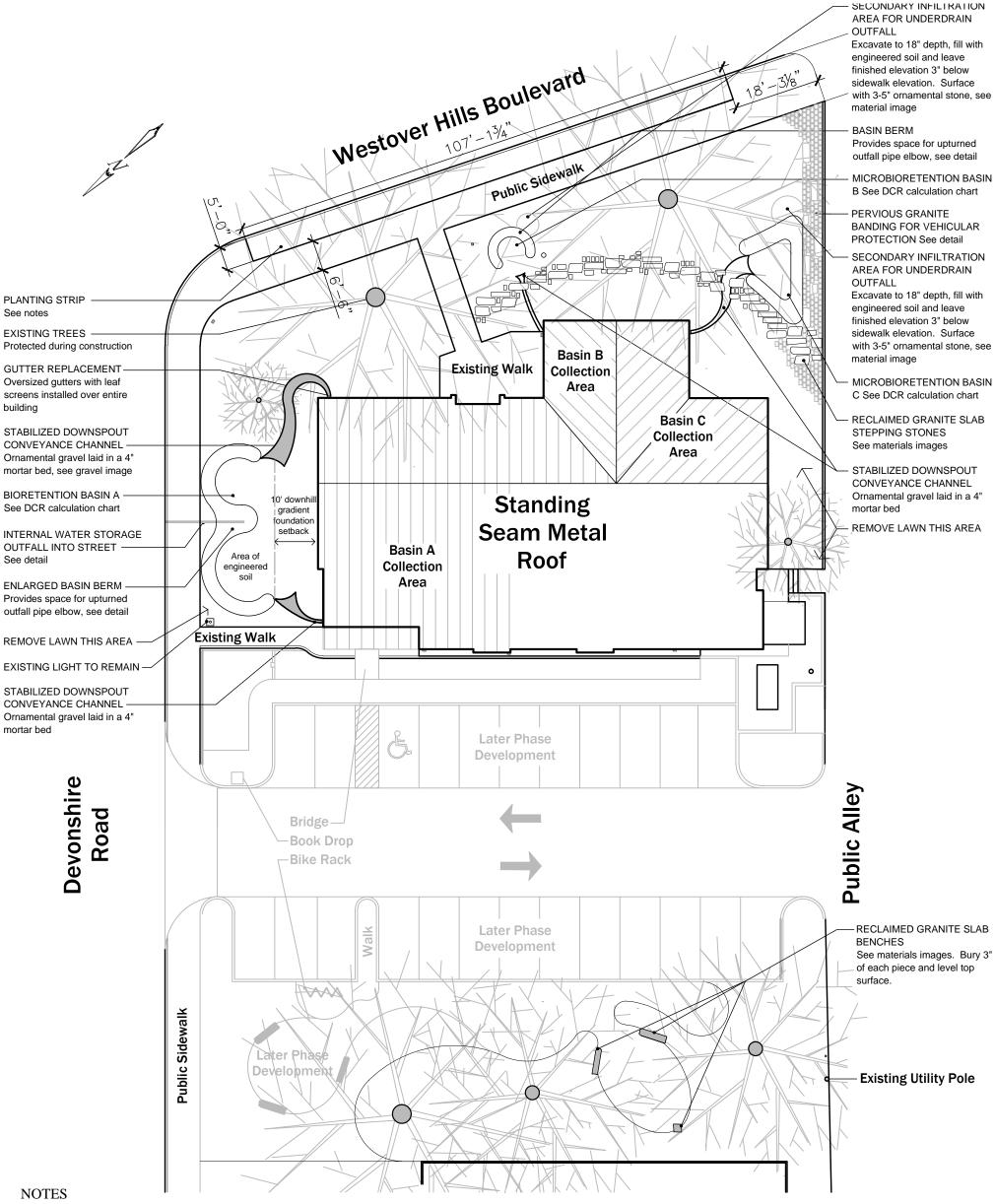
The lot layout provides additional spaces and meets city parking and sidewalk dimensional standards. Safety is increased with walks and clear circulation routes. Pervious pavement is designed to capture all lot runoff. Reflected heat is reduced with shade trees and through the use of light toned pavers.

# Green Corridor and Gathering Spaces

With the exiting trees preserved a series of low berms are created with excavated soil from site work, thereby minimizing construction waste.

These berms frame two spaces

These berms frame two spaces featuring reclaimed granite slabs used as benches. With the bulk of the lawn removed small native understory trees add interest and color. Nooks behind the berms provide places for composting landscape debris. Additional pole lights provide illumination under the tree canopy.



Contractor to make a site visit to determine demolition.

The existence and location of all utilities is not shown on this plan. Contractor to contact Miss

Contractor to confirm the integrity of all construction details shown and field verify all dimensions. Issues and concerns shall be discussed with Four Winds prior to bid or construction. Contractor to assume all responsibility for all construction methods employed.

All ornamental stone shall be 3-5" Chalet stone as sold by Pete Rose.

No material or equipment shall be stored in the public right-of-ways or in the drip line of the existing trees.

Contractor to fence off open holes whenever the site is unattended and hang caution signs on each side of the fencing.

The engineered soil shall consist of 50% sand, 25% topsoil, and 25% leaf or mushroom compost. Soil sample shall be submitted to FW prior to construction.

The reclaimed granite slabs shown in the material images are on hold at Caravati's Architectural Salvage. Contractor to furnish and install.

All basins and benches shall be field located by FW. Contractor to contact FW to arrange a pre-construction meeting at least one week in advance of the project start date

The planting strip within the public sidewalk shall have all concrete saw cut and removed. All gravel, soil, and debris shall be removed to a depth of 18" and replaced with engineered soil. Leave final grade at the elevation of the bottom of the concrete to remain, then mulch as noted

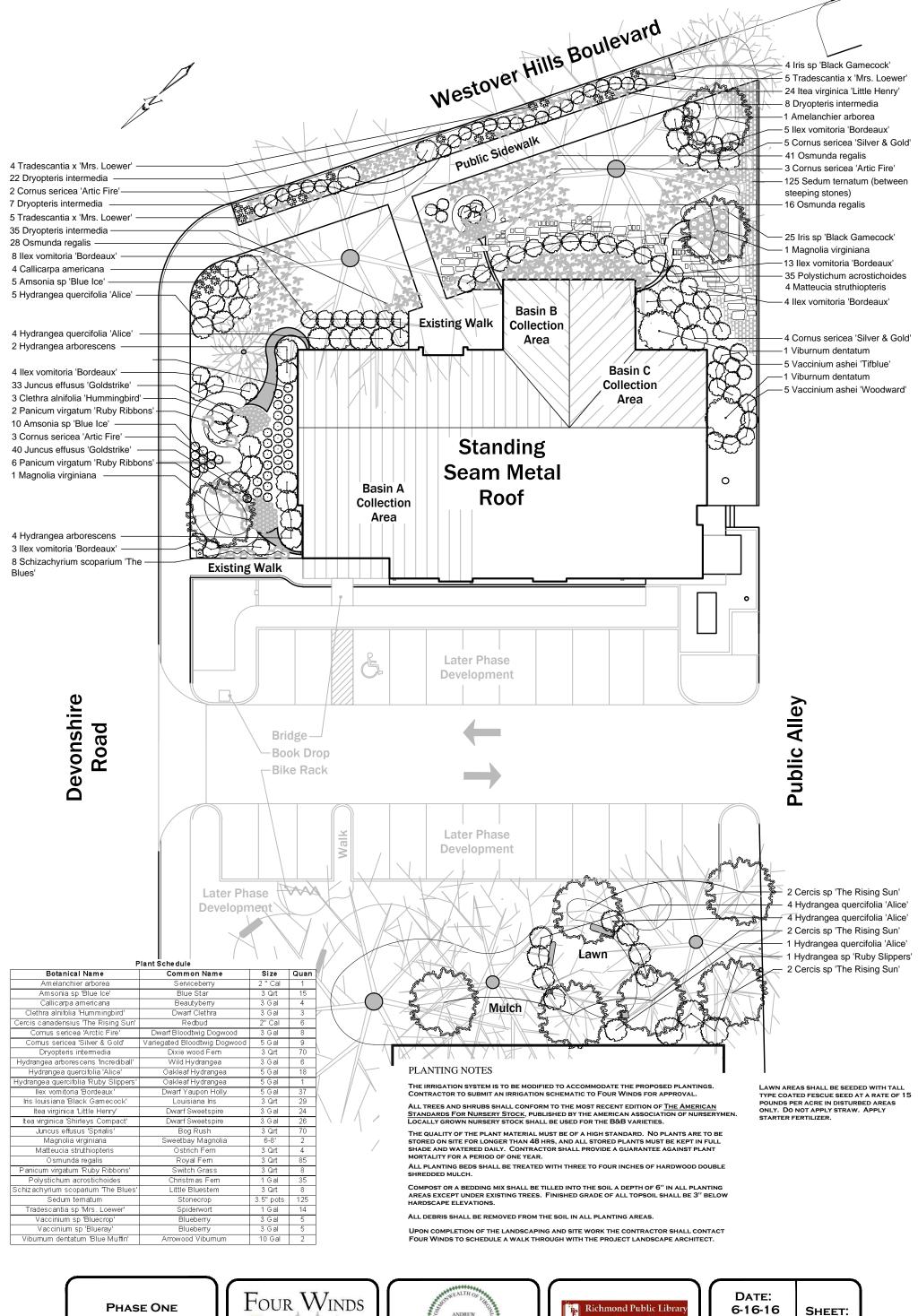
PHASE ONE **LAYOUT PLAN** FOR CONSTRUCTION







DATE: 6-16-16 SHEET: 10F3 SCALE: 1"= 20



PHASE ONE PLANTING PLAN NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



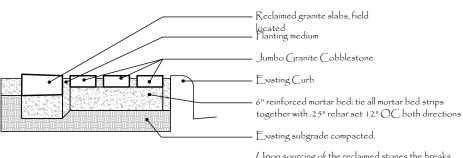




6-16-16 SCALE: 1"= 20

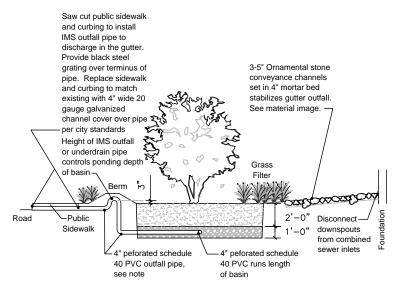
20F 3

408 WESTOVER HILLS BOULEVAR RICHMOND, VA



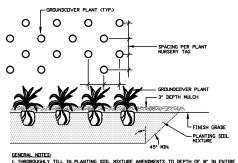
Upon sourcing of the reclaimed stones the breaks between the mortar will change at each section Vehicular Protection Strip

Scale: none



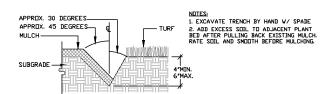
Note: For basins B & C, the outfall pipe shall outlet in the gravel locations noted on the layout plan. Provide black pipe grate.

Bioretention Basins

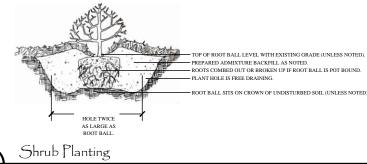


Perennial Planting

Scale: none



Planting Bed Edge



DISEASED & DEAD BRANCHES PRUNED. PLANT TAGS REMOVED -TREE SET AT SAME LEVEL AS IT GREW.

-3-4" HARDWOOD MULCH. MULCH DOES NOT TOUCH TREE TRUNK.

-SOIL SAUCER CREATED TO HOLD WATER.

-BURLAP & ROPES CUT BACK FROM TOP OF ROOT BALL.

-PREPARED ADMIXTURE BACKFILL AS NOTED.

-PLANT HOLE IS FREE DRAINING. ROOT BALL SITS ON CROWN OF UNDISTURBED SOIL (UNLESS NOTED).

Tree Planting Scale: none

DCR Bioretention Design Standards Compliance

	DCR Design Standard	Sizing	Ponding Depth	Media Depth	Gravel Sump Depth	Infiltration Rate	Underdrain	Geometry	Pre-treatment	Conveyance	Planting
Bioretention Basin A	Table 9.3, Level One	CDA= 3100 sq ft*, 2693 sq ft impervious	3"	24"	12"	1.25"/ hr	schedule 40 PVC	one cell design	Flow spreader & grass filter	on-line; stabalized outfall, see detail	>75% coverage in 2 yrs
		253.2 sq ft required, 270 sq ft provided*									
MicroBioretention Basin B	Table 9.2, Level One	CDA = 403 sq ft. At 3%, 12 sq ft required	3"	24"	n/a	5/8" hr	corrugated HDPE	n/a	leaf screens	n/a	herbaceous & shrubs
		28 sq ft provided									
MicroBioretention Basin C	Table 9.2, Level One	CDA = 862 sq ft. At 3%, 25.8 sq ft required	3"	24"	n/a	5/8" hr	corrugated HDPE	n/a	leaf screens	n/a	herbaceous & tree
		76 calf provided									

7
\*\*Calculated Storage Depth is 1.15 ft.
SA = (Tv/ 1.15 ft)
TV = (Rv× 3100 sq ft CDA)/ 12 = 232.95
Runoff coefficients are .95 for impervious roof and .05 for planting bed

Stormwater Management	Location		Acres Treated By Facility			Runoff captured,	HUC (6th order) Of	Impaired Water Segment To	Ownership Of Facility
Facility Structure Letter						acre-feet	Location of Facility	Which Facility Discharges	
	Latitude	Longi tu de	Impervious Acres	Pervious Acres	Total Acres				
А	N 37d 31' 19.7126"	W 77d 29' 18.1586"	0.061	0.009	0.07	0.006	20802	Reedy Creek	Public
В	N 37d 31' 18.9027"	W 77d 29' 17.7675"	0.0092	0	0.009	0.001	20802	Reedy Creek	Public
С	N 37d 31' 18.3972"	W 77d 29' 18.4"	0.019	0	0.019	0.001	20802	Reedy Creek	Public

THIS PLAN HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY JONET PREVOST-WHITE, RICHMOND DPU & SCOTT FIRESTINE,



Reclaimed granite cubes as bench option. Firm installation cost: \$1500.00.







Ornamental gravel for conveyance channels and stabilized outfall: 3-5" Chalet

**PHASE ONE DETAILS** FOR CONSTRUCTION







DATE: 6-16-16	SHEET:
SCALE: NONE	3 of 3