



CALL FOR ARTISTS - REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The City of Conover is seeking artists to submit qualifications for public art to be installed outdoors in our literacy garden to create a whimsical space for children and adults to enjoy literature.

Background

The City of Conover received a Rural Transformation Grant to improve walkability between downtown, the City Park, and adjacent neighborhoods. The project will include a literacy garden at Conover Station where the community's library branch is located. Conover Station is a renovated historic mill housing various community functions and is a LEED certified building.

The City also received a Projects Pool Grant from Art Culture Catawba through the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, with funding from the State of North Carolina from the National Endowment for the Arts. With this grant, the City is seeking artists' proposals to overlay the plaza with a reading/literature theme and enhance the space.

Scope of Work

The project should incorporate art into the outdoor plaza to create an inviting space where people of all ages can enjoy literature. The City will consider proposals from all artistic disciplines and will be especially interested in proposals that:

- Incorporates a literacy theme;
- create unique spaces for children and adults to enjoy books;
- feature art that will stand the test of time and require little to no maintenance for at least 10 years using durable low maintenance materials such as glass, unpainted woods, metals, etc;
- incorporate natural and recycled materials in line with the aesthetics of the Conover Station building;
- include interactive, educational elements but doesn't create a playground.

Project Overview

- **Location:** The art will be a in yet to be constructed literacy garden in front of Conover Station 403 Conover Station SE, Conover, NC 28613. The outdoor plaza will include a tiered seating area to read to groups of 15-20 children and smaller spaces for pairs or individuals to enjoy a book.
- **Estimated Budget:** \$10,000
- **Proposed Completion:** Summer 2025
- **Please see final design of the literacy garden below.**



Eligibility

The project is open to artists aged 18 or older who are eligible to work in the United States. Local artists are especially encouraged to participate and incorporate their unique insights into the project.

Submission Guidelines

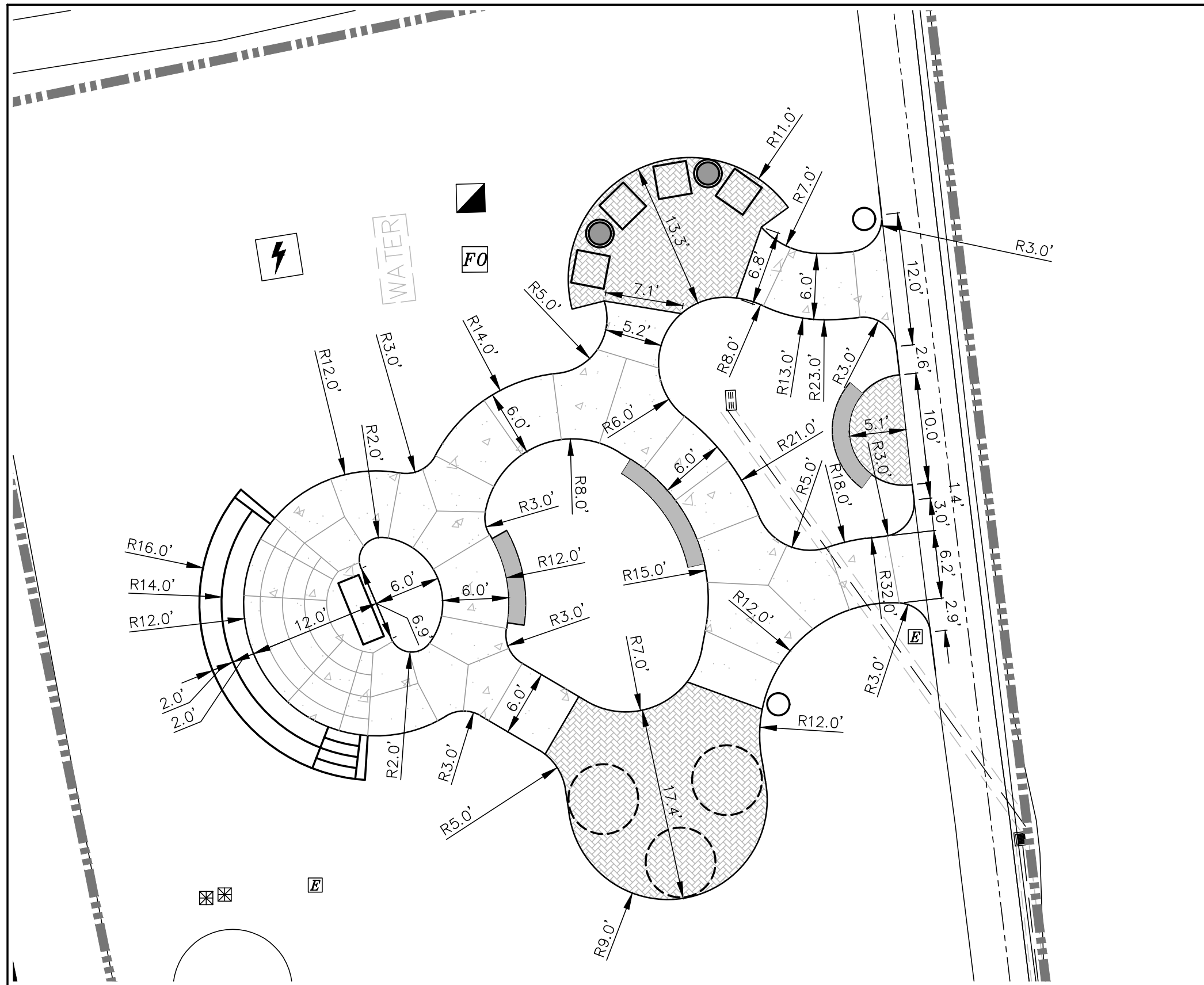
- Submissions are due by 11:59 p.m. Friday, August 30, 2024.
- Interested artist must email their Qualifications/Portfolio to kaitlyn.lindler@conoverncc.gov. The Qualifications/Portfolio should include any relevant information about training, 3-5 high resolution samples of relevant work, and any other evidence of ability to create public art.

Selection Process and Criteria

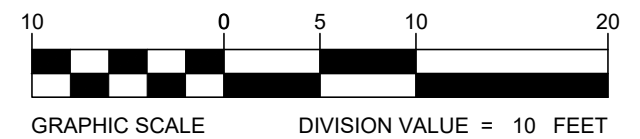
- A selection team composed of City staff, current and past Arts Council Board Members, and Arts Council staff will evaluate all applications based on the following criteria:
 - Proven track record of using materials and methods appropriate for the project
 - Artistic excellence
- Three artists will be invited to submit original mockups for further review. Each artist will be paid a \$500 stipend for the completed work.
- The selection team will review the original mockups submitted by the three artists and select the artist who best meets project objectives.

Estimate Project Timeline

- Call for Artist issued: August 5, 2024
- Qualification submission deadline: 11:59 p.m. August 30, 2024
- Selection of top three artists: September 6, 2024
- Selected artists to submit original mockup deadline: 11:59 p.m. October 11, 2024
- Final Selection: October 25, 2024
- Literacy Garden construction contract awarded: November 4, 2024
- Construction, Artist planning and design: December 2024- April 2025
- Art installation: April 2025- May 2025
- Project completion: May 2025

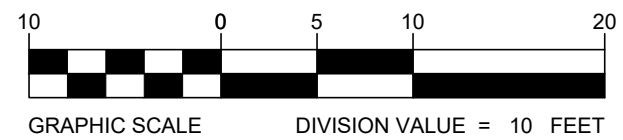


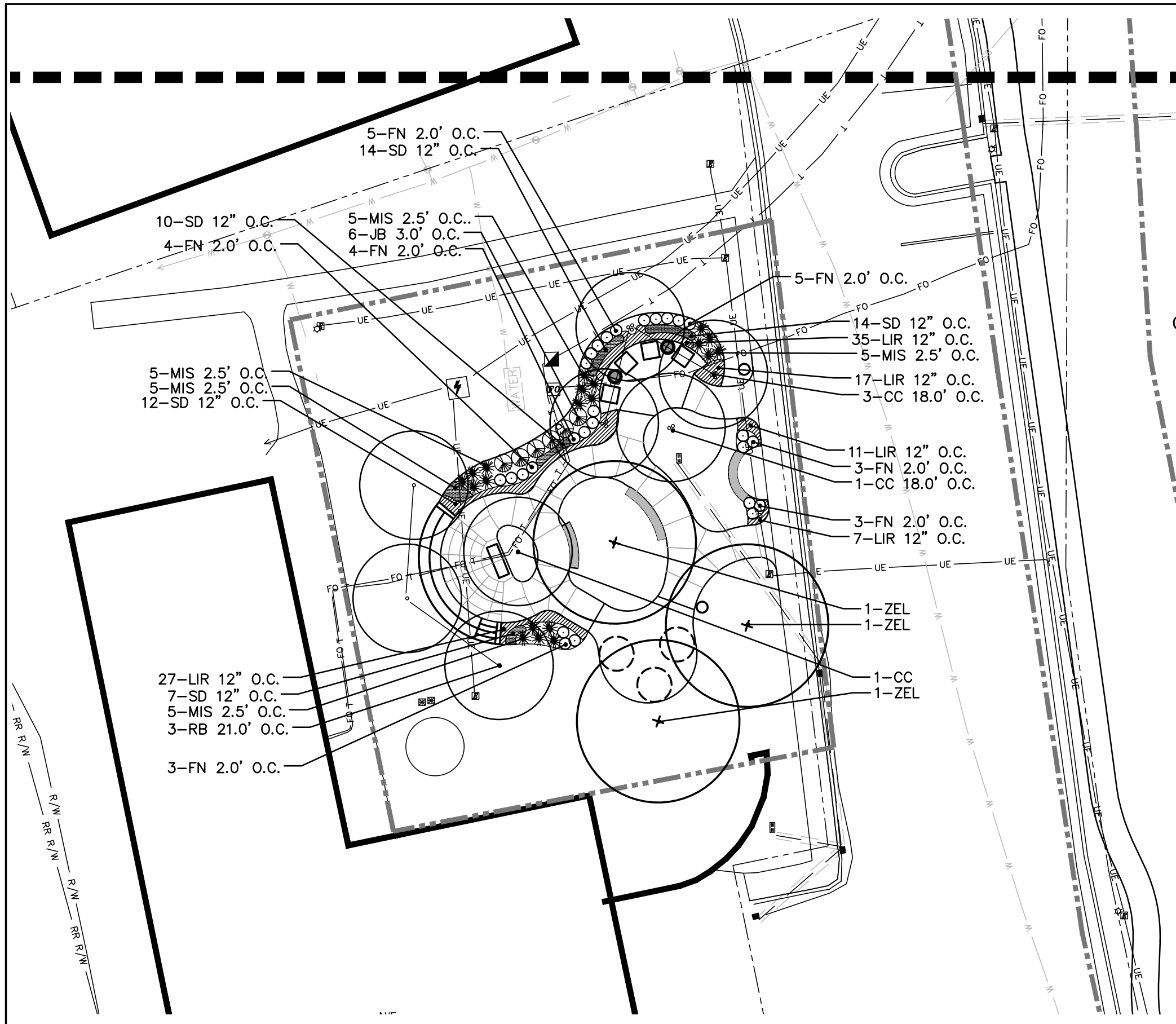
LIBRARY PLAZA



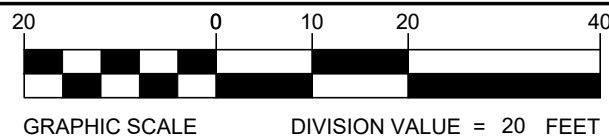


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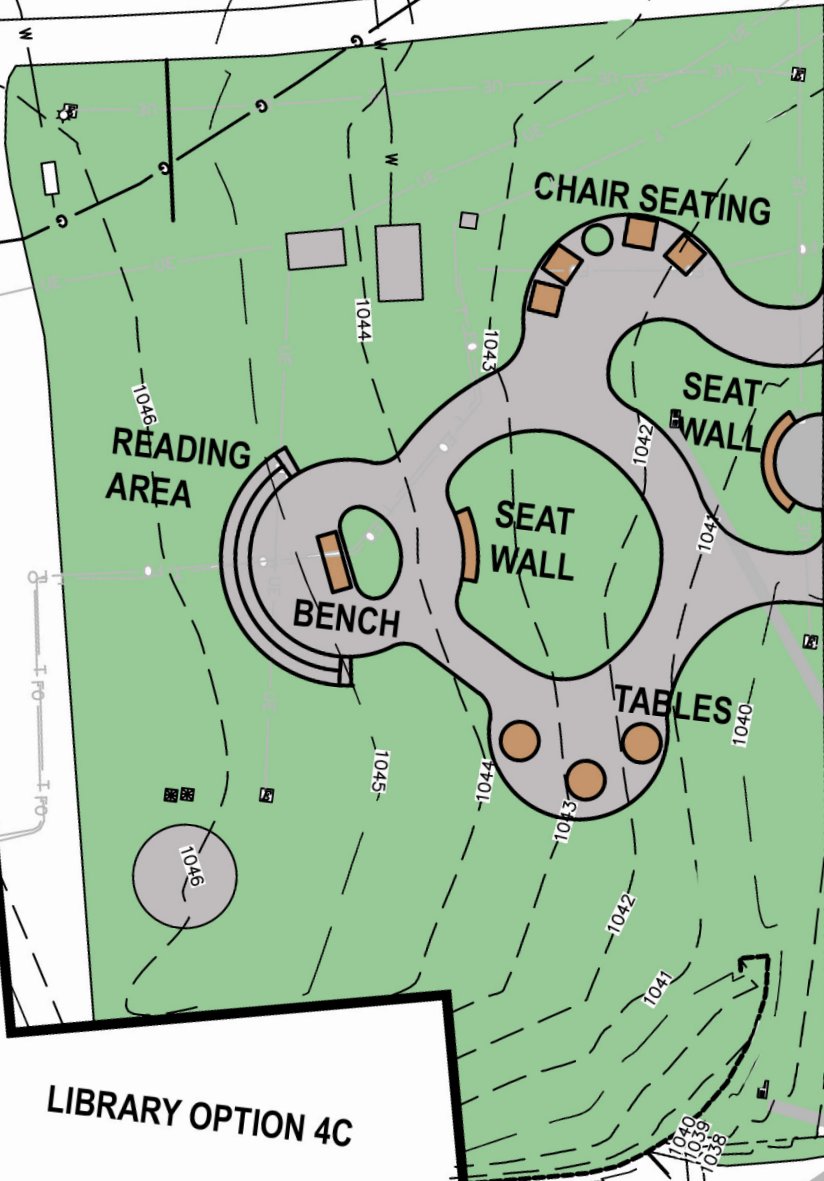


PLANTING SCHEDULE

SYM.	QTY.	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
TREES			
ZEL	3	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Green Vase'	Japanese Zelkova
RB	4	<i>Betula nigra</i> 'Heritage'	River Birch
CC	4	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> 'Forest Pansy'	Eastern Redbud
SHRUBS			
JB	19	<i>Distylium hybrid</i> 'BLDY01'	Jewel Box Distylium
FN	38	<i>Nandina domestica</i> 'Murasaki'	Flirt Dwarf Nandina
ORNAMENTAL GRASSES/PERENNIALS/GROUNDCOVERS			
LIR	249	<i>Liriope muscari</i> 'Royal Purple'	Liriope
SD	79	<i>Heemerocalis</i> x 'Stella de Oro'	Stella De Oro daylily
MIS	20	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Morning Light'	Morning Light Maiden Grass
DFG	12	<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i> 'Hameln'	Dwarf Fountain Grass



Literacy Garden
403 Conover Station SE



LIBRARY OPTION 4C