

THE SOUL GATE GARDEN

A HEALING AND NOURISHING GARDEN
FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT RETREAT CENTER

DESIGN ✦ INSPIRATION

In the world of K-Pop Demon Hunters, the invented term honmoon is used to describe a magical barrier woven from the souls of people. It acts as a protective shield separating the human world from the demon underworld, blocking evil forces from entering the Earth's surface.

'Hon' comes from the word for soul. 'Moon' from the word for gate. Soul Gate.

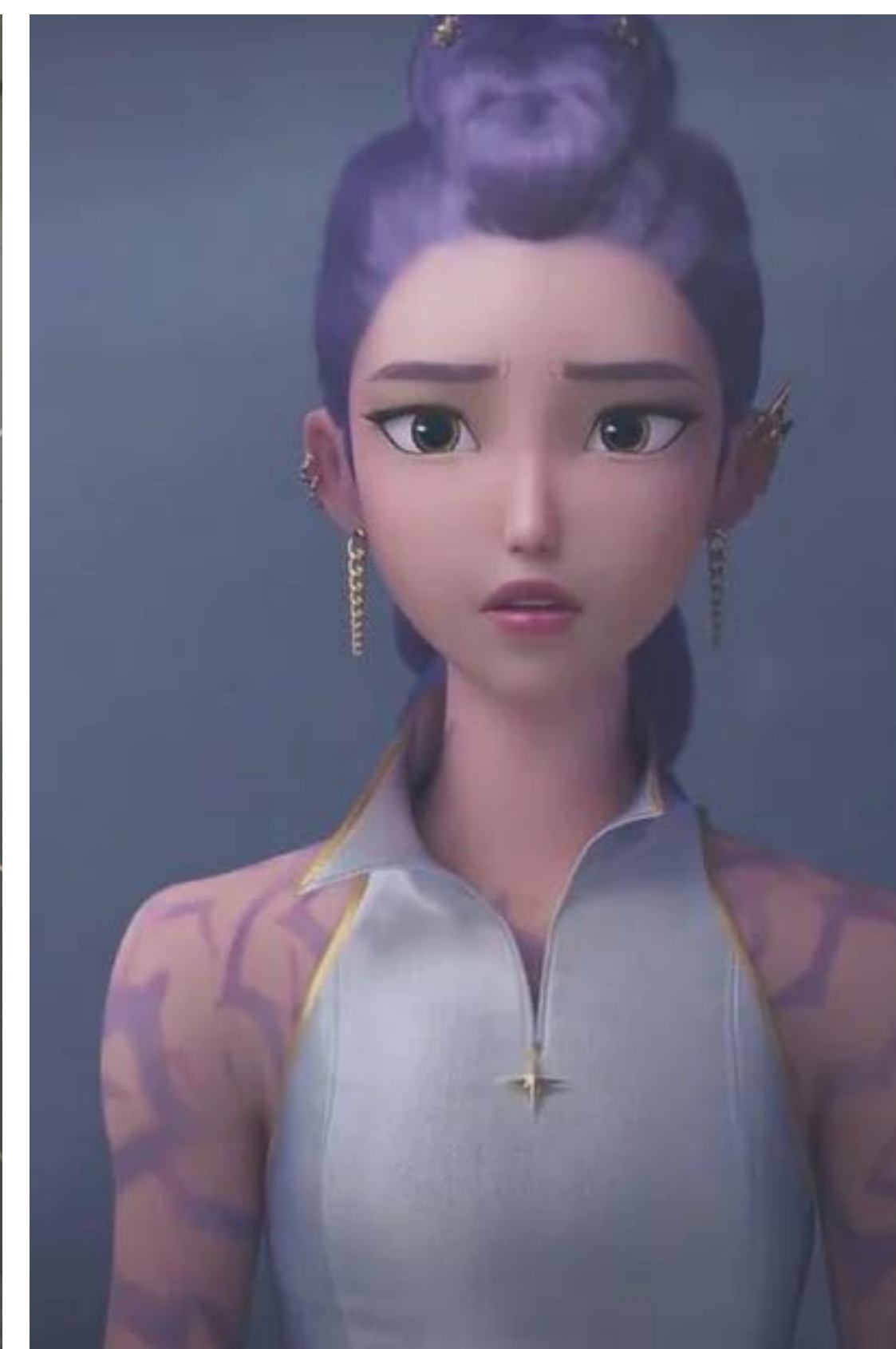
The 'Honmoon' names the threshold between the burdened world and the restored self.

This garden is a soul gate.

K-Pop Demon Hunters is a film in which a K-Pop girl group are secretly trained shamans who use music and ritual to fight evil spirits. The film draws directly from Korean shamanism or Muism, and its concept of the protective spiritual threshold.

In researching the film's source material, the connection to this site became clear. Muism is one of the oldest living spiritual traditions in the world. At its center are the mudang, predominantly women, who served as intermediaries between the human and spirit worlds, healing communities through ritual and the tending of sacred space. The Sisters of Social Service were founded in 1923 with a strikingly similar mission: women in service, responding to those who were socially, economically, and politically powerless. Following Benedictine spirituality, they hold that God is everywhere and that every aspect of the ordinary day is potentially holy.

The mudang tended her village. The Sisters tend the world that arrives at their door. Korean shamanism organizes the sacred landscape into three realms: Haneul (heaven), Ttang (earth), and Yongwang (water). These become the three gardens, but the water does not wait at the end. It stands between.



Inspired by the lyric "beauty in the broken glass," the Soul Gate Garden explores the idea that growth begins with acceptance. In K-Pop Demon Hunters, the protagonist Rumi hides the fact that she is part demon, fearing rejection if others discover the truth. Through her journey, she learns that embracing this hidden part of herself is the key to her strength. The garden draws on this theme, inviting visitors to move from healing and reflection toward acceptance, nourishment, and wholeness.



Rumi's healing happens through connection. The orchard and productive planting beds can provide meaningful harvests throughout the year, creating opportunities for residents to participate in the care of the landscape and share in its abundance.

In K-Pop Demon Hunters, Rumi doesn't arrive at acceptance all at once. There are moments, clues, and revelations that gradually guide her toward understanding who she is. The Soul Gate Garden is organized around revelations. Each focal plant serves as a visual reminder that growth happens in stages, guiding visitors from reflection and healing toward abundance and connection in order to accept who we are. The plants are not meant to be obvious stand outs along the way, the journey is in the discovery of what seems to be standing out.

SITE ANALYSIS



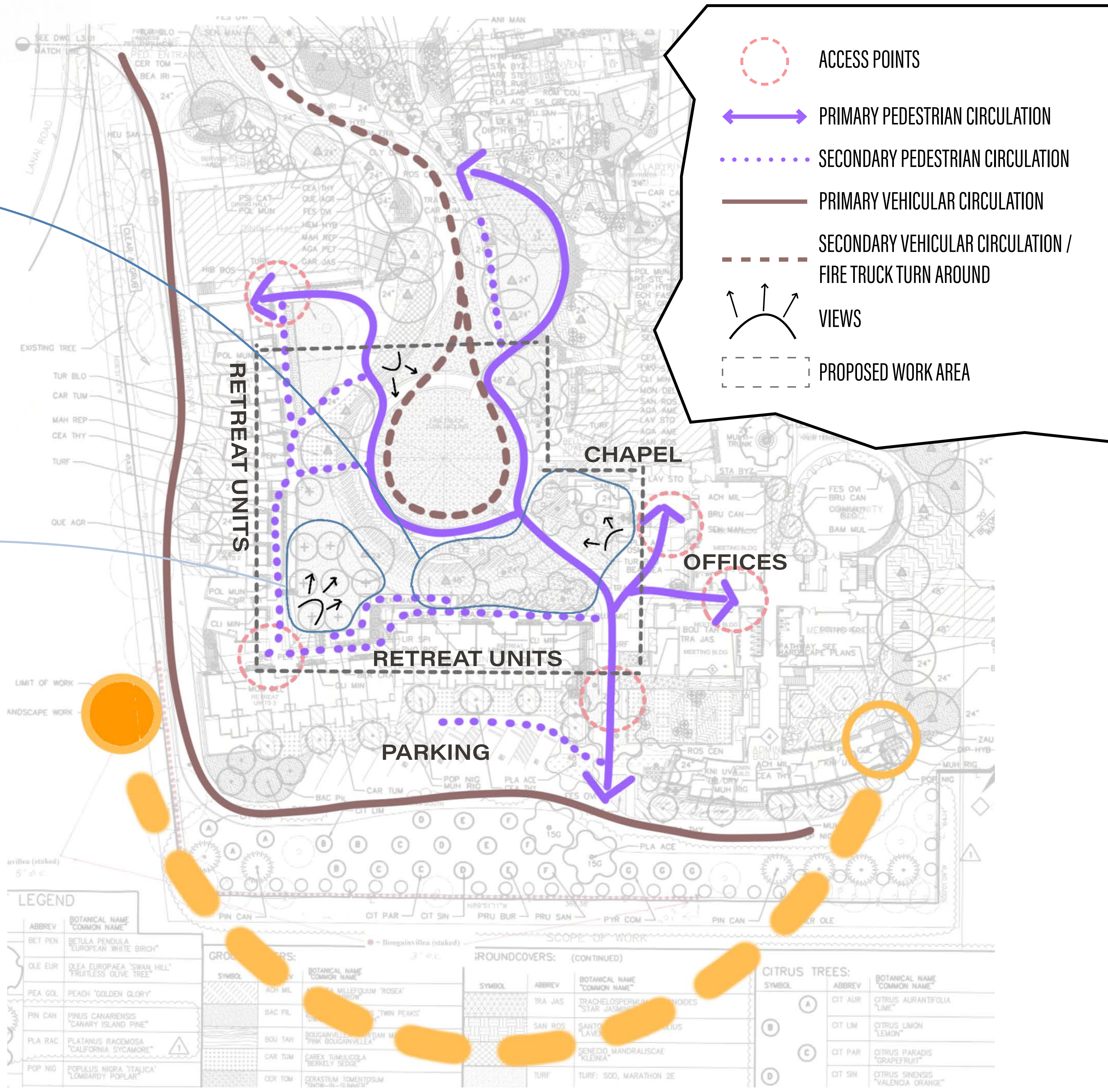
EXISTING TREES - TO KEEP

The existing sycamore and oak trees within the project area are in good health and contribute significantly to the character of the site. During site visits, residents expressed a strong appreciation for the mature sycamores, highlighting their importance as valued landscape features. Their established canopy provides shade, spatial definition, and a sense of continuity throughout the property, making them key elements to consider in the future development of the garden.



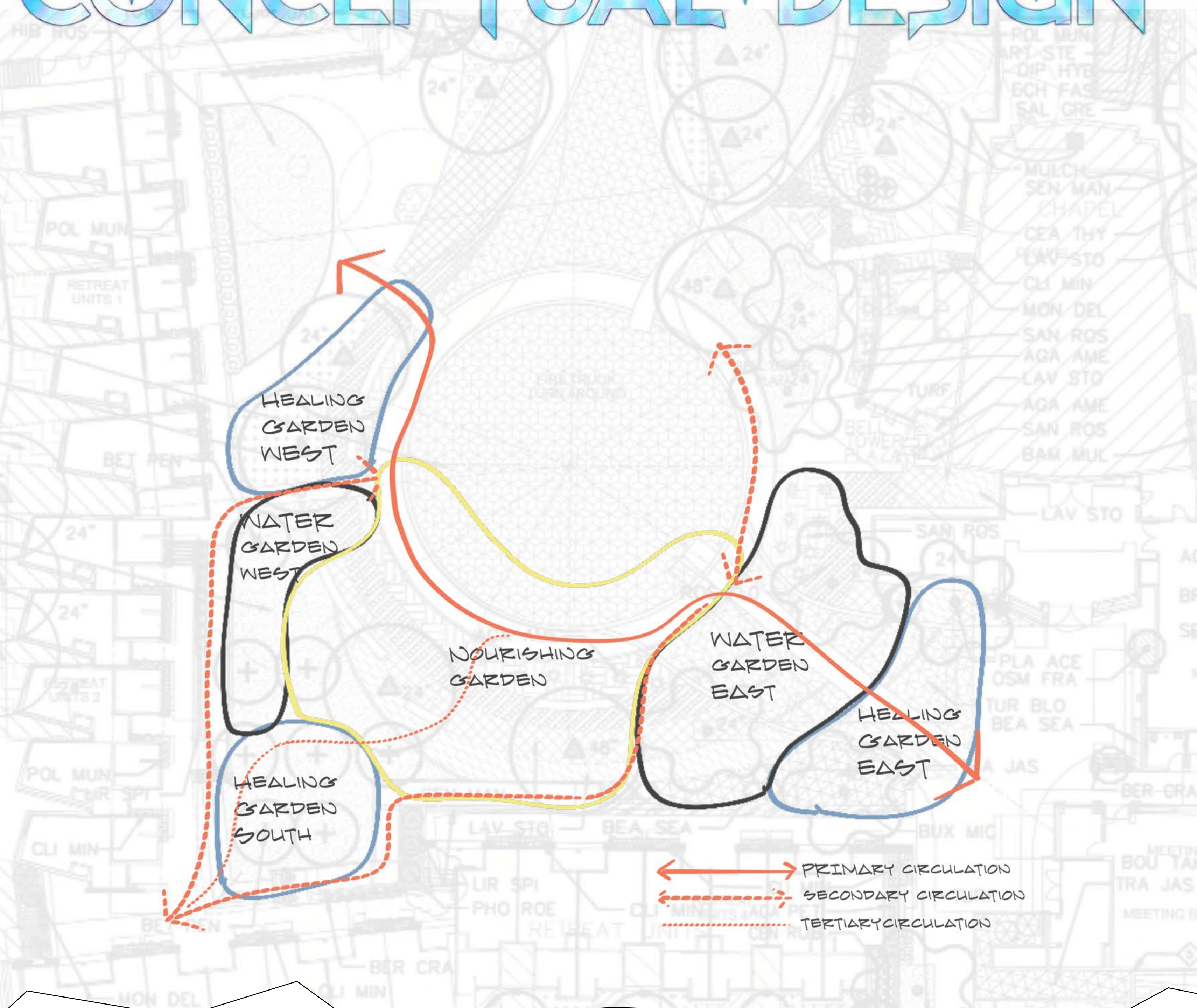
EXISTING TREES - TO REMOVE

A grove of birch trees currently occupies a large portion of the site's central open space, limiting views between the residences, chapel, and other key destinations. The trees appear poorly suited to the site's dry conditions and are not receiving the consistent moisture typically required for long-term health. Their removal would create an **opportunity to restore visual connections** across the property and allow for plantings that are better adapted to the site's environmental conditions.



NTS

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN



The area selected for the planting plan occupies the most active portion of the property, where the chapel, offices, and residences converge along a frequently traveled pedestrian corridor. Because residents and staff move through this space daily, it was identified as the ideal location for a garden centered on restoration, reflection, and community.

Inspired by the concept of the "honmoon" or "soul gate," from Korean spiritual traditions and reinterpreted through themes explored in K-Pop Demon Hunters, the Soul Gate Garden is organized as a procession. Visitors enter through one of three Healing Garden nodes, where aromatic sages help to restore those who arrive in the space. From there, they must cross through water, represented by the Rain Garden and Fountain Garden. In Korean mythology, Yongwang, the Dragon King, rules over water and the boundary between worlds. Here, water becomes the symbolic passage between healing and nourishment.

Beyond this threshold lies the Nourishing Garden, the heart of the design. Anchored by a Fuyu Persimmon representing the symbolic Tree of Life, this garden embodies growth and abundance. Surrounding orchard trees and planting beds extend westward into the site's sunniest areas, while the existing sycamores and oaks remain as established anchors that guide movement through the space, provide shade, and frame the journey. Together, these garden rooms create a sequence that moves visitors from healing, through transformation, and ultimately toward nourishment.

PLANTING PLAN

The Soul Gate Garden



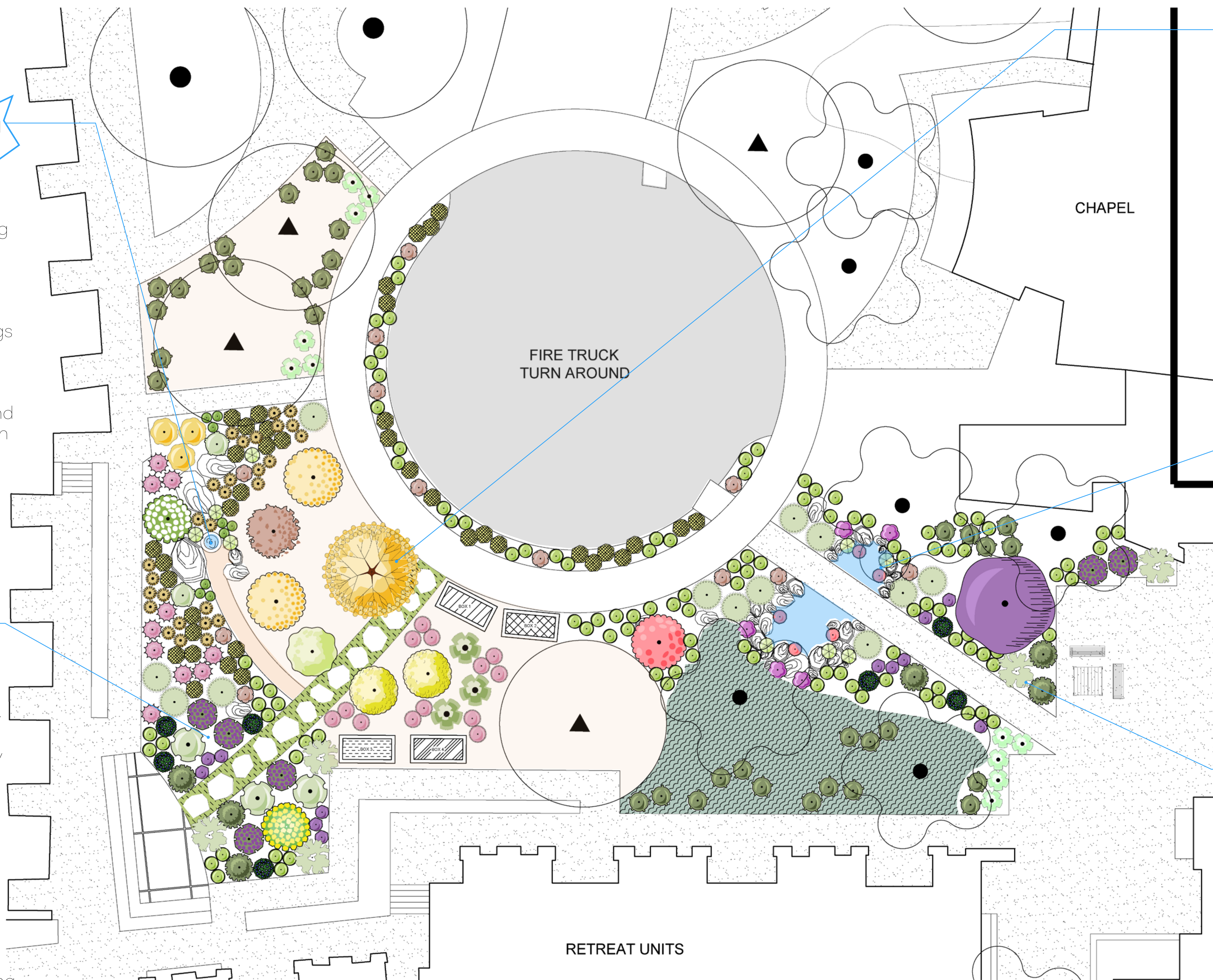
Fountain Garden

The Fountain Garden serves as the sensory threshold between healing and nourishment, an audible crossing, drawing visitors forward through the sound of bubbling water. Moisture-associated species such as California gray rush and Blue-eyed grass are arranged near the water, while pollinator-supporting plantings including Sticky Monkeyflower, Margarita BOP Penstemon, and California Fuchsia bring seasonal color, creating a vibrant contrast with the drier healing gardens and signals the transition toward abundance in the nourishing garden beyond.



Healing Garden South

The south Healing Garden serves as an entry into the Soul Gate Garden, introducing visitors to a landscape of self-discovery. A creeping thyme pathway weaves through the flagstone, inspired by the purple energy that courses through the main character, Rumi, in *K-Pop Demon Hunters*. Like the truth she struggles to accept, the thyme emerges between stones and reveals itself gradually along the journey. Fragrant California native sages, including *Salvia apiana* and *Salvia clevelandii*, create an immersive sensory experience through their aromatic foliage. Together, the winding thyme path and healing plant palette establish a welcoming threshold into the Soul Gate Garden, inviting visitors to slow down and begin the journey from healing toward nourishment.



Nourishing Garden

The Nourishing Garden represents the culmination of the Soul Gate Garden journey. At its center, a Fuyu Persimmon symbolizing growth and the acceptance of one's true self. Inspired by the film, strength emerges through embracing identity and connection. Surrounding dwarf citrus trees, seasonal raised vegetable beds, artichokes, and Korean mint creating a harvest throughout the year, transforming healing into sustenance.



Rain Garden

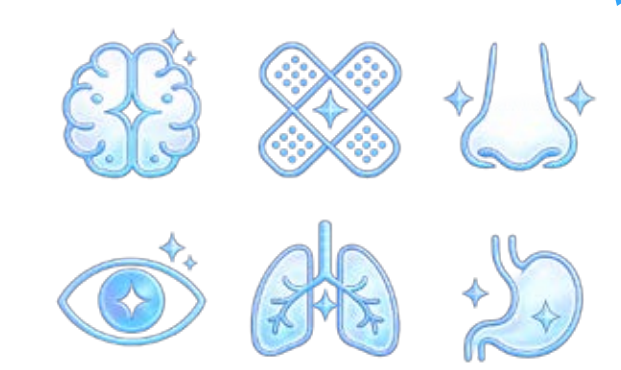
The Rain Garden serves as the visual water threshold between healing and nourishment. Anchored by existing sycamores, seasonal blooms of Douglas Iris and Cardinal Flower emerge from the basin below, using water as a symbol of renewal and transformation. Crossing through the garden marks a shift from reflection toward growth and abundance.



Healing Garden East

This Healing Garden serves as the primary arrival into the Soul Gate Garden. A 'Ray Hartman' Ceanothus acts as a welcoming focal point. Surrounding plantings of California sagebrush and Pacific Mist Manzanita engage the senses through fragrance and texture, creating a calming environment for reflection. An adjacent seating area offers a quiet place to reconnect before continuing deeper into the garden.

0' 8' 16' 32'
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



PLANT ♦ PALETTE

Healing Gardens • Full Sun to Shade



Pacific Mist Manzanita
Arctostaphylos 'Pacific Mist'



White Sage
Salvia apiana



Woolly Blue Curls
Trichostema lanatum



California Sagebrush
Artemisia californica



Cleveland Sage
Salvia clevelandii



Terra Seca Black Sage
Salvia mellifera 'Terra Seca'



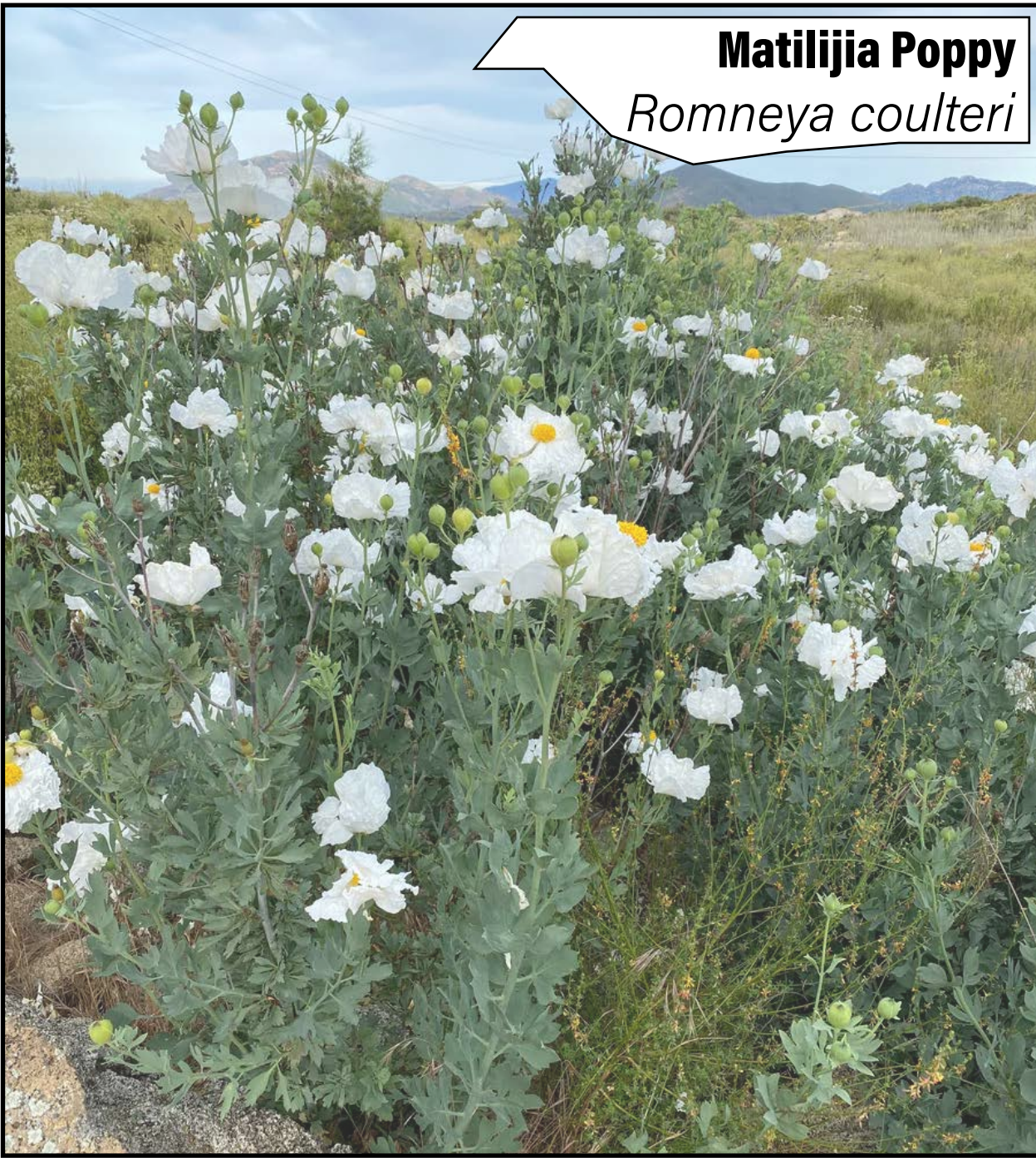
California Field Sedge
Carex praegracilis



Globe Thistle
Echinops ritro



Creeping Thyme
Thymus serpyllum



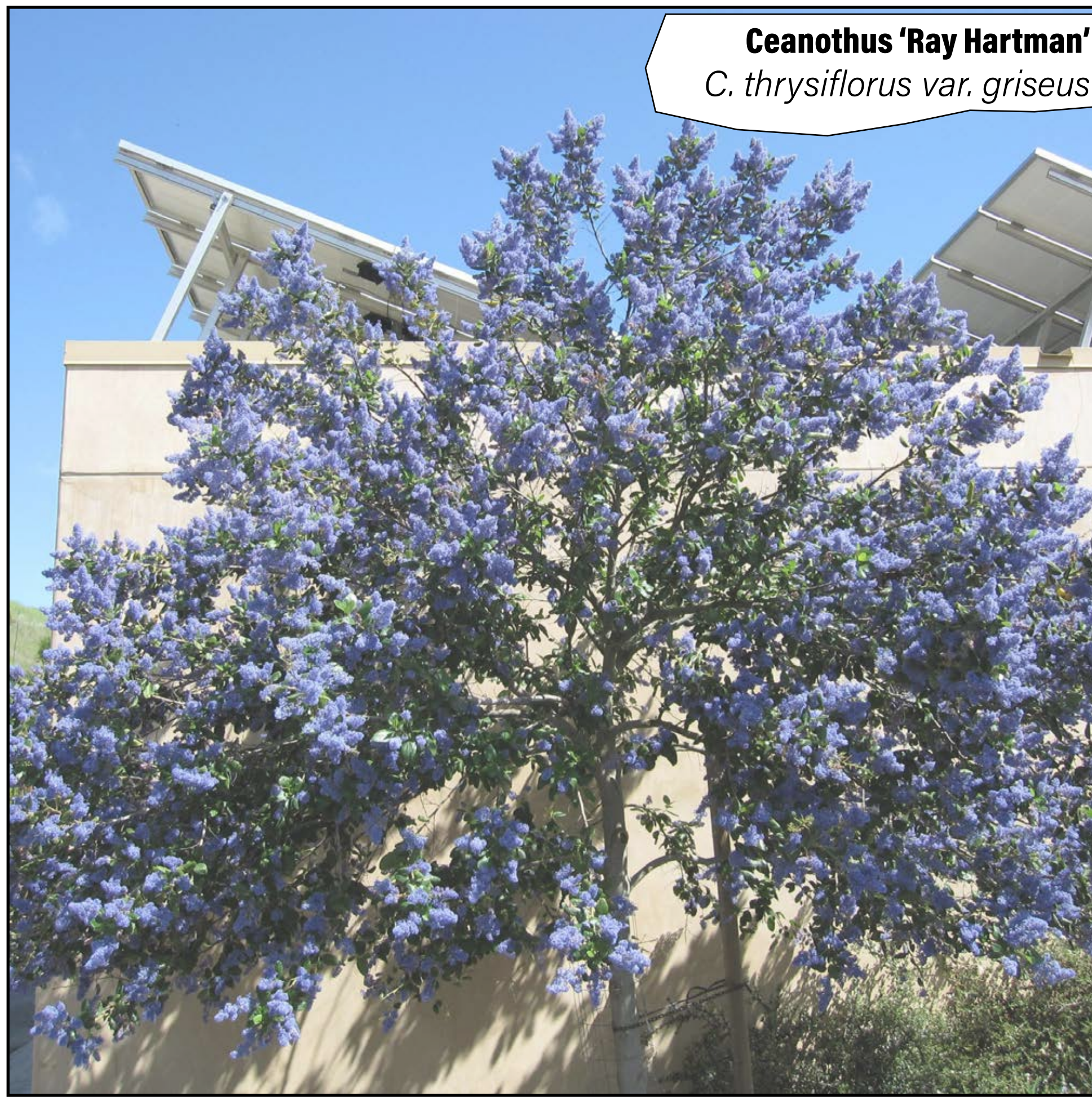
Matilija Poppy
Romneya coulteri



Hummingbird Sage
Salvia spathacea



Yerba Buena
Clinopodium douglasii

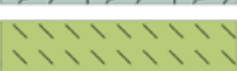


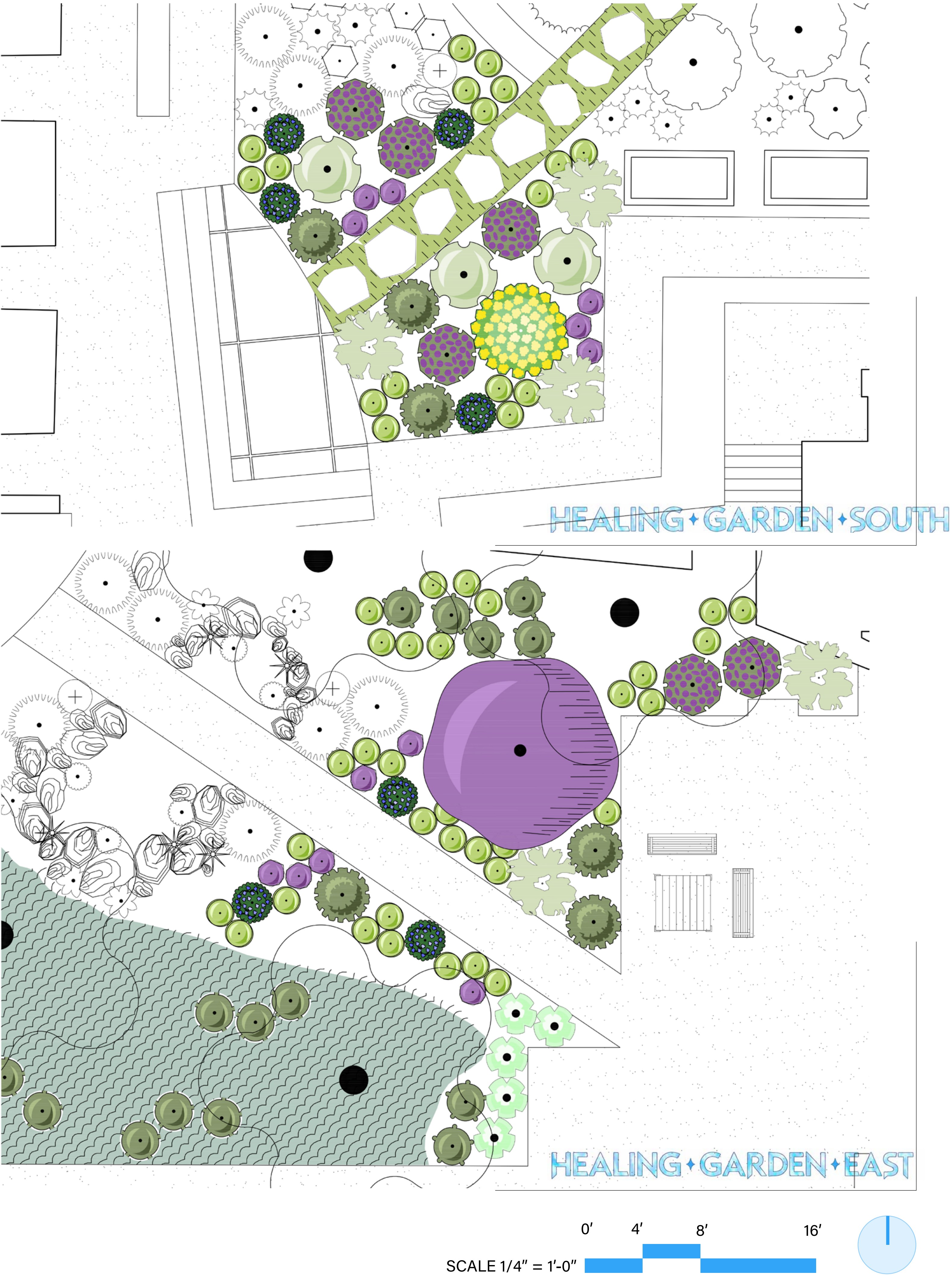
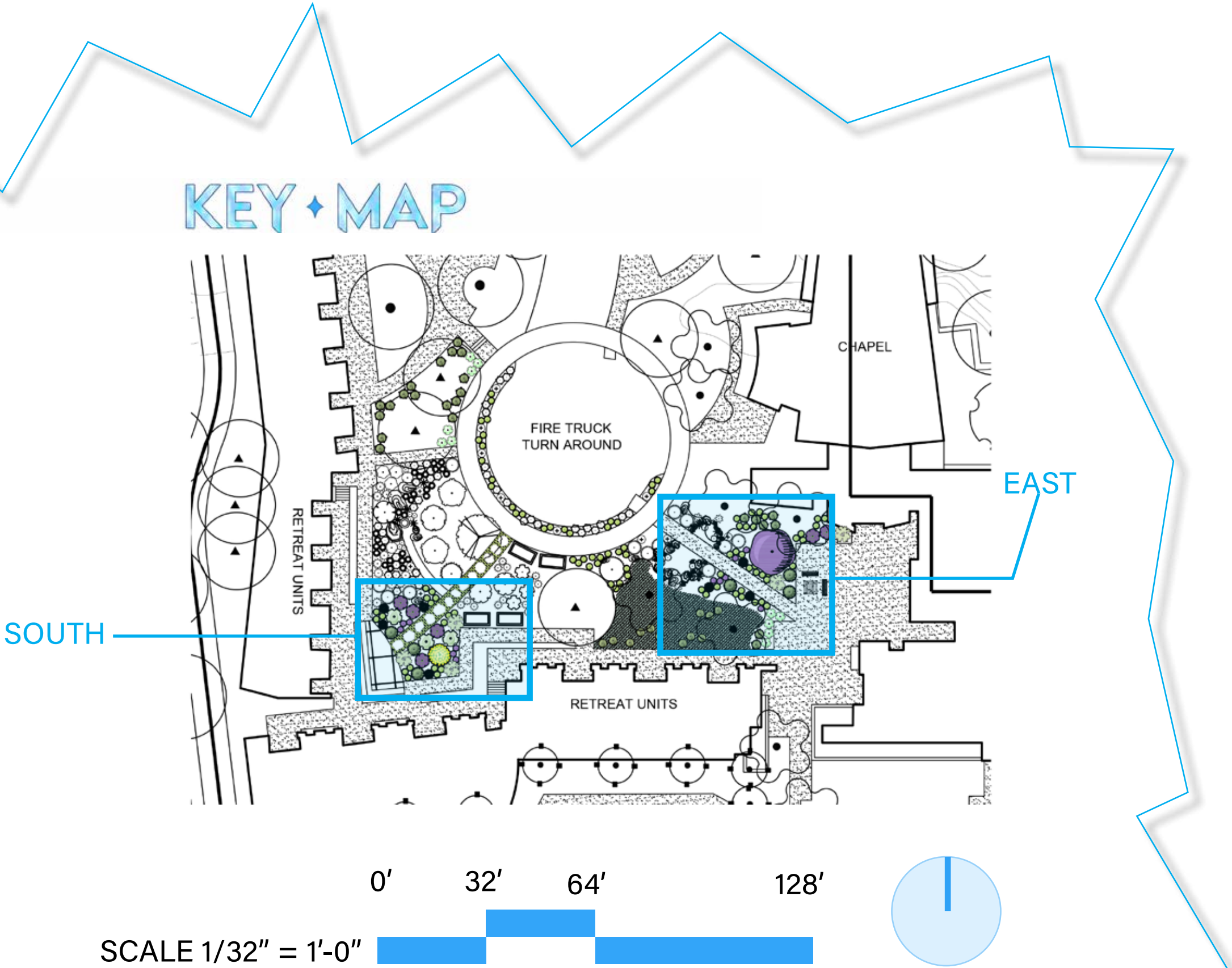
Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'
C. thrysiflorus var. griseus

ENLARGEMENT

Healing Gardens

PLANT SCHEDULE - HEALING GARDENS

<u>SYMBOL</u>	<u>CODE</u>	<u>BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SIZE</u>		<u>QTY</u>	<u>HEALING GARDEN A</u>	<u>HEALING GARDEN B</u>
SHRUBS							
	ARC MIS	Arctostaphylos x 'Pacific Mist' / Pacific Mist Manzanita	1 gal.		4		4
	ART CAL	Artemisia californica / California Sagebrush	1 gal.		5	3	2
	CAR PRA	Carex praegracilis / California Field Sedge	1 gal.		50	17	33
	CEA HAR	Ceanothus x 'Ray Hartman' / Ray Hartman Wild Lilac	15 gal.		1		1
	ECH RIT	Echinops ritro / Globe Thistle	1 gal.		11	6	5
	ROM COU	Romneya coulteri / Matilija Poppy	5 gal.		1	1	
	SAL API	Salvia apiana / White Sage	1 gal.		3	3	
	SAL CLE	Salvia clevelandii / Cleveland Sage	1 gal.		6	4	2
	SAL TER	Salvia mellifera Terra Seca / Terra Seca Black Sage	1 gal.		6	3	3
	SAL SPA	Salvia spathacea / Hummingbird Sage	1 gal.		19		19
	TRI WOO	Trichostema lanatum / Woolly Blue Curis	1 gal.		7	4	3
<u>SYMBOL</u>	<u>CODE</u>	<u>BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>SPACING</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>HEALING GARDEN A</u>	<u>HEALING GARDEN B</u>
GROUND COVERS							
	CLI DOU	Clinopodium douglasii / Yerba Buena	flat	12' o.c.	98 flats		98 flats
	THY SER	Thymus serpyllum / Creeping Thyme	flat	12' o.c.	17 flats	17 flats	



PLANT ♦ PALETTE

Water Gardens • Full Sun to Part Shade



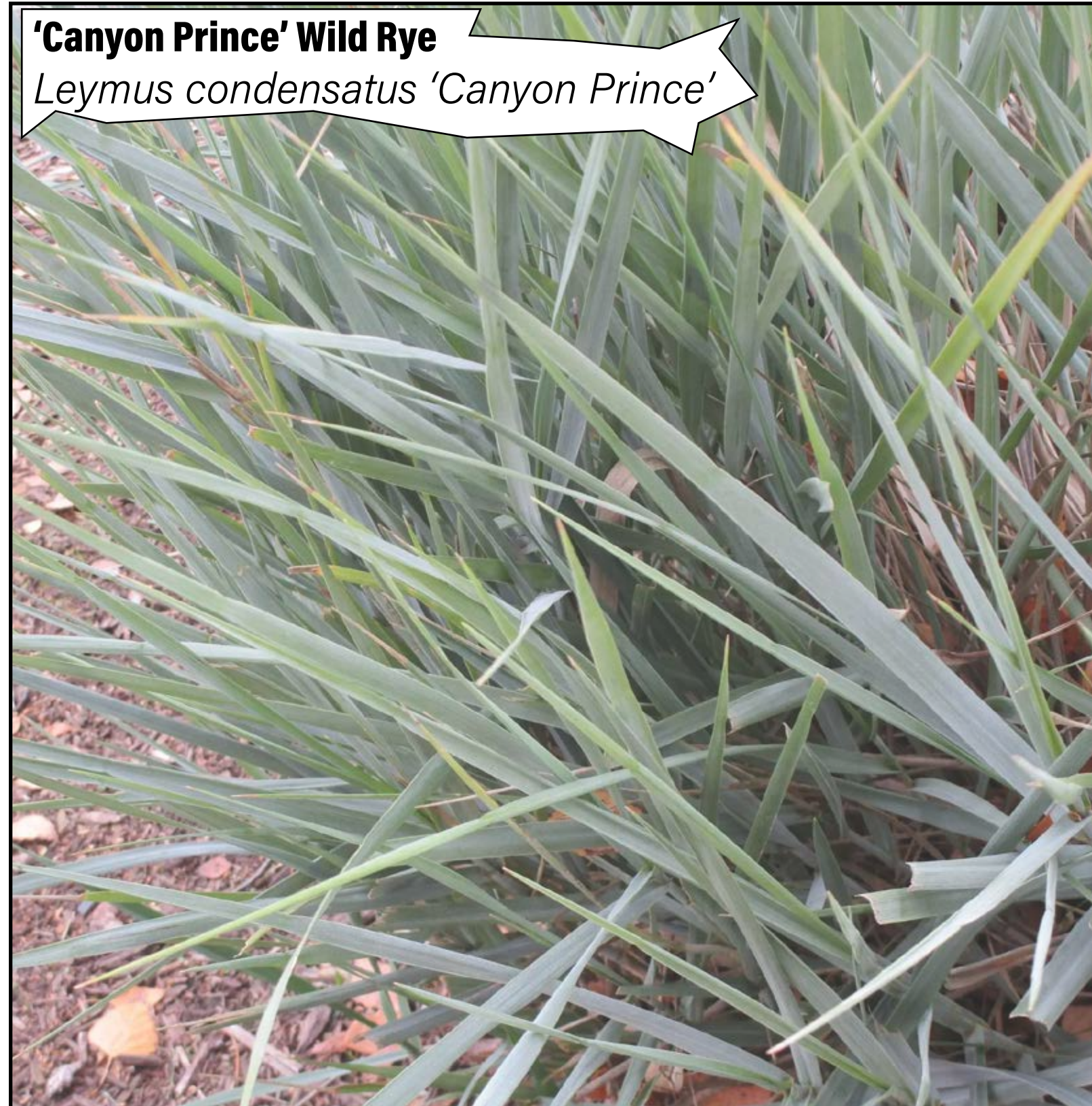
Dwarf Fuchsia
Epilobium canum



Blue Grama Grass
Bouteloua gracilis



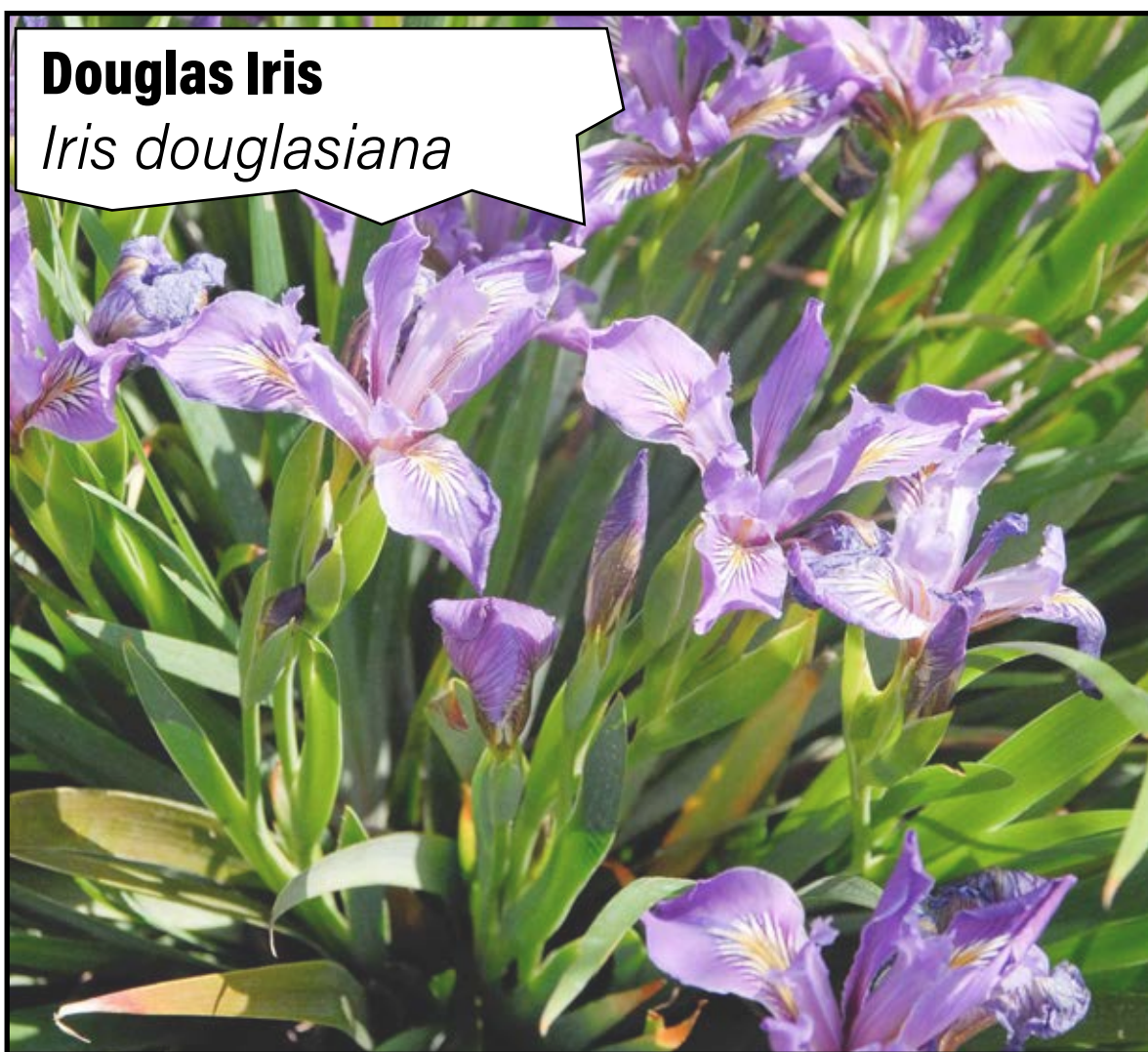
Dwarf Coastal Sage
Artemisia pycnocephala 'David's Choice'



'Canyon Prince' Wild Rye
Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'



California Wild Rose
Rosa californica



Douglas Iris
Iris douglasiana



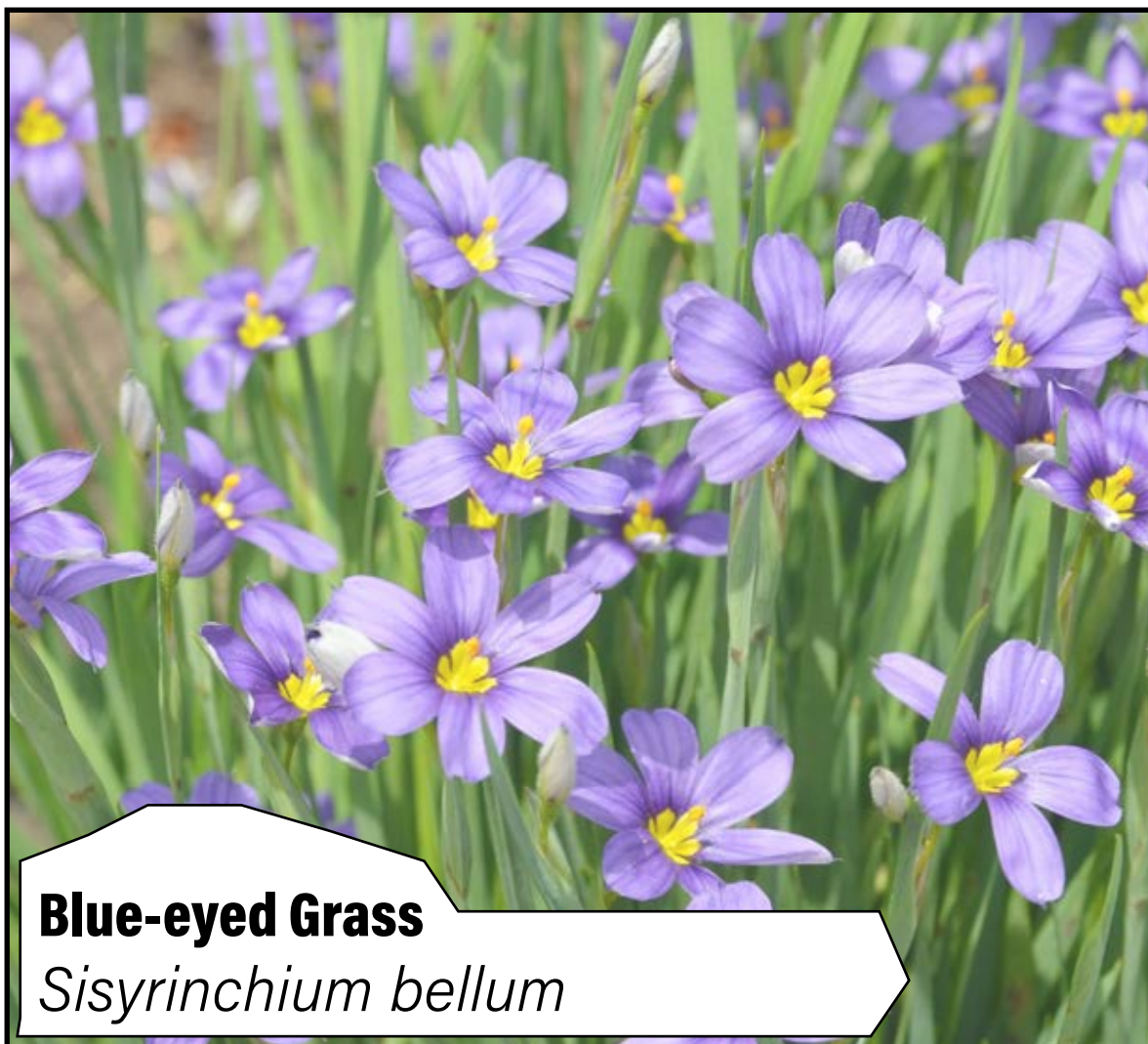
Common Yarrow
Achillea millefolium



Cardinal Flower
Lobelia cardinalis



Island Bush Poppy
Dendromecon harfordii



Blue-eyed Grass
Sisyrinchium bellum



California Gray Rush
Juncus patens 'Elk Blue'



Sticky Monkeyflower
Mimulus aurantiacus



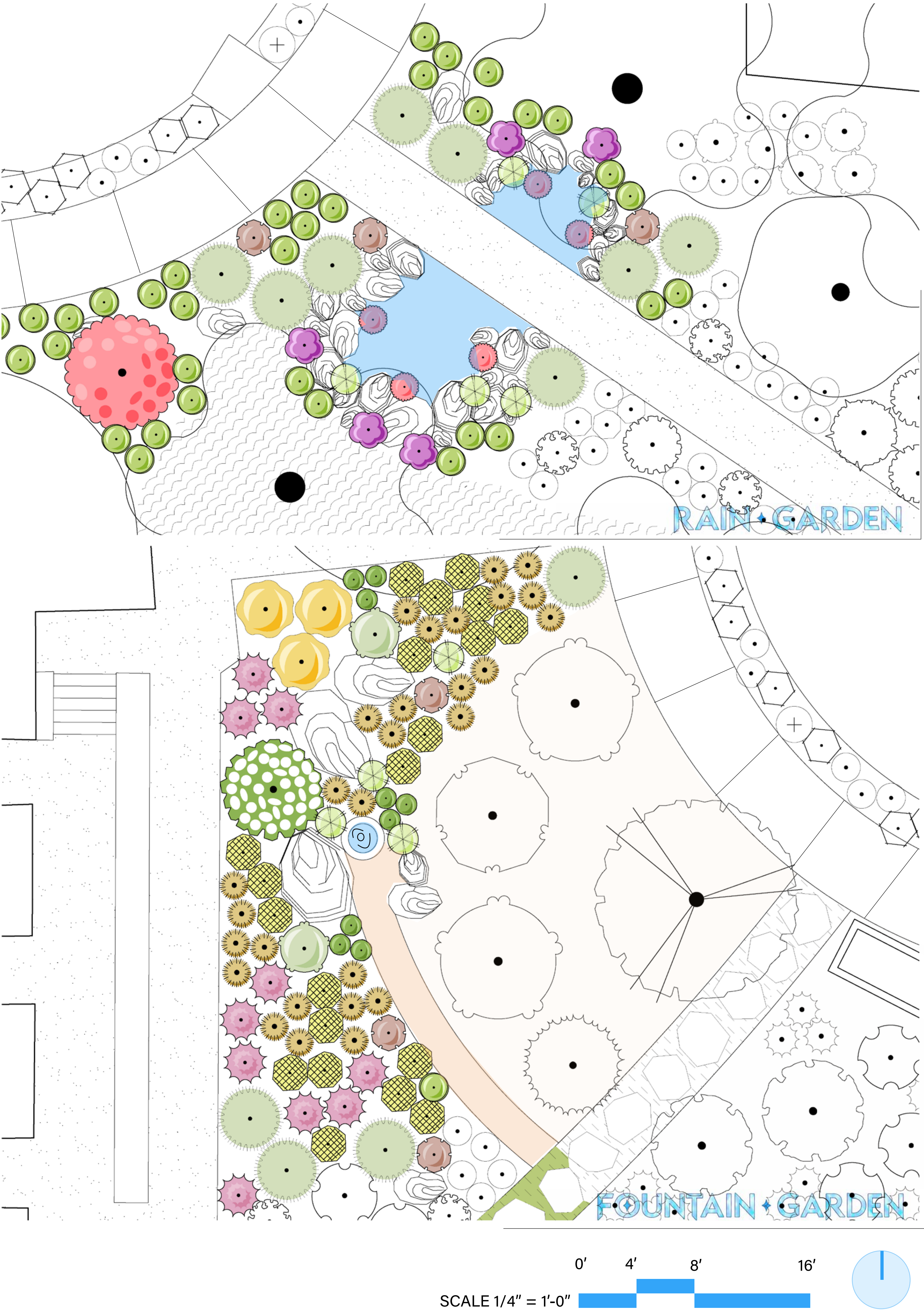
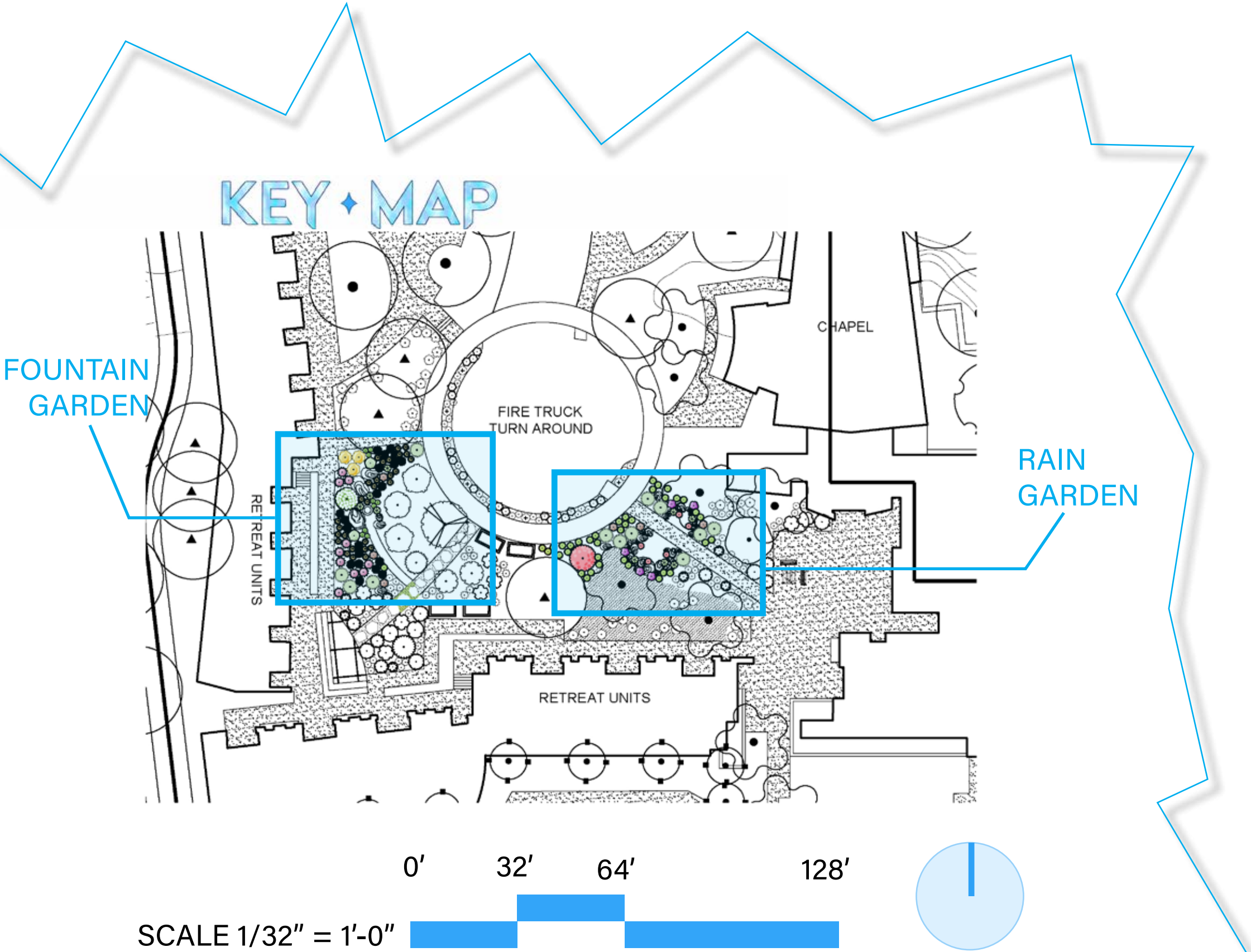
Foothill Penstemon
Penstemon 'Margarita BOP'

ENLARGEMENT

Water Gardens

PLANT SCHEDULE - WATER GARDENS

SYMBOL	CODE	BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME	SIZE	QTY	FOUNTAIN GARDEN	RAIN GARDEN
SHRUBS						
	ACH MIL	Achillea millefolium / Common Yarrow	1 gal.	20	20	
	ART PYC	Artemisia pycnocephala 'David's Choice' / Dwarf Coastal Beach Sagewort	5 gal.	2	2	
	BOU GRA	Bouteloua gracilis / Blue Grama Grass	1 gal.	28	28	
	CAR PRA	Carex praegracilis / California Field Sedge	1 gal.	38	1	37
	DEN HAR	Dendromecon harfordii / Island Bush Poppy	5 gal.	1	1	
	EPI HUM	Epilobium canum / California Fuchsia	5 gal.	6	3	3
	IRI IRI	Iris douglasiana / Douglas Iris	1 gal.	5		5
	JUN ELK	Juncus patens 'Elk Blue' / Spreading Rush	5 gal.	9	4	5
	LEY CAN	Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince' / Canyon Prince Giant Wild Rye	5 gal.	12	4	8
	LOB CAR	Lobelia cardinalis / Cardinal Flower	1 gal.	5		5
	MIM AUR	Mimulus aurantiacus / Sticky Monkeyflower	5 gal.	3	3	
	PEN MAR	Penstemon heterophyllus 'Margarita BOP' / Margarita BOP Penstemon	1 gal.	10	10	
	ROS CAL	Rosa californica / California Wild Rose	1 gal.	1		1
	SIS BEL	Sisyrinchium bellum / Blue-eyed Grass	1 gal.	9	9	



PLANT ♦ PALETTE

Nourishing Garden

VEGETABLE GARDEN



Fuyu Persimmon
Diospyros kaki



Globe Artichoke 'Imperial Star'
Cynara cardunculus 'Imperial Star'



Korean Mint
Agastache rugosa



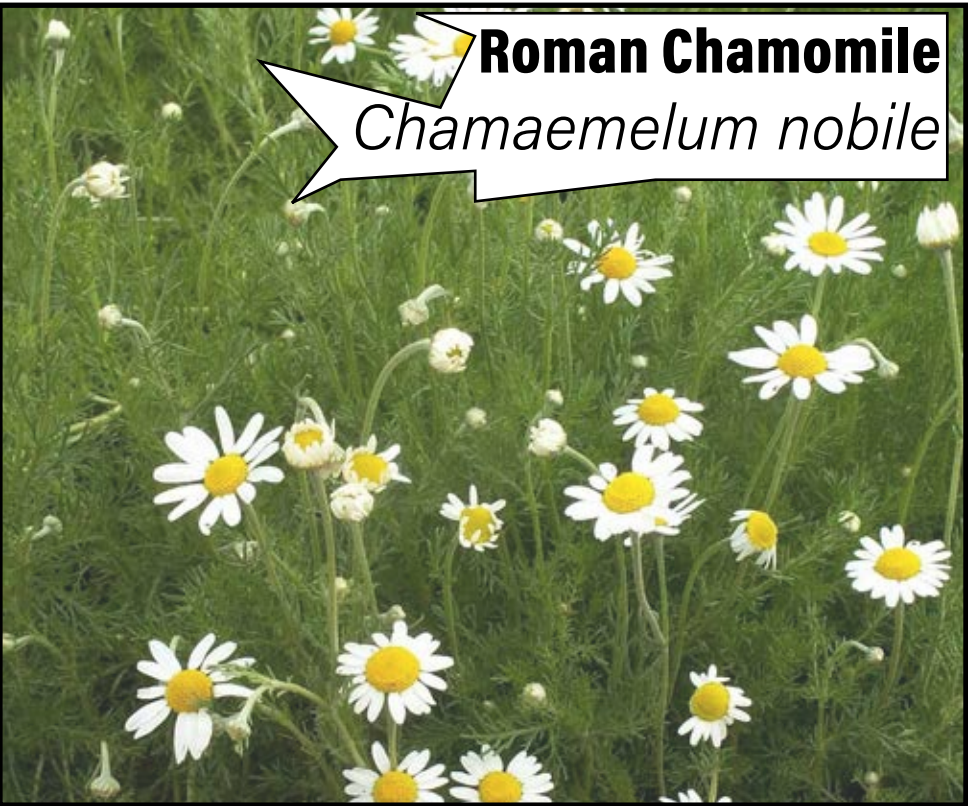
Okra
Abelmoschus esculentus



Fava Bean
Vicia faba



Garlic Chives
Allium tuberosum



Roman Chamomile
Chamaemelum nobile



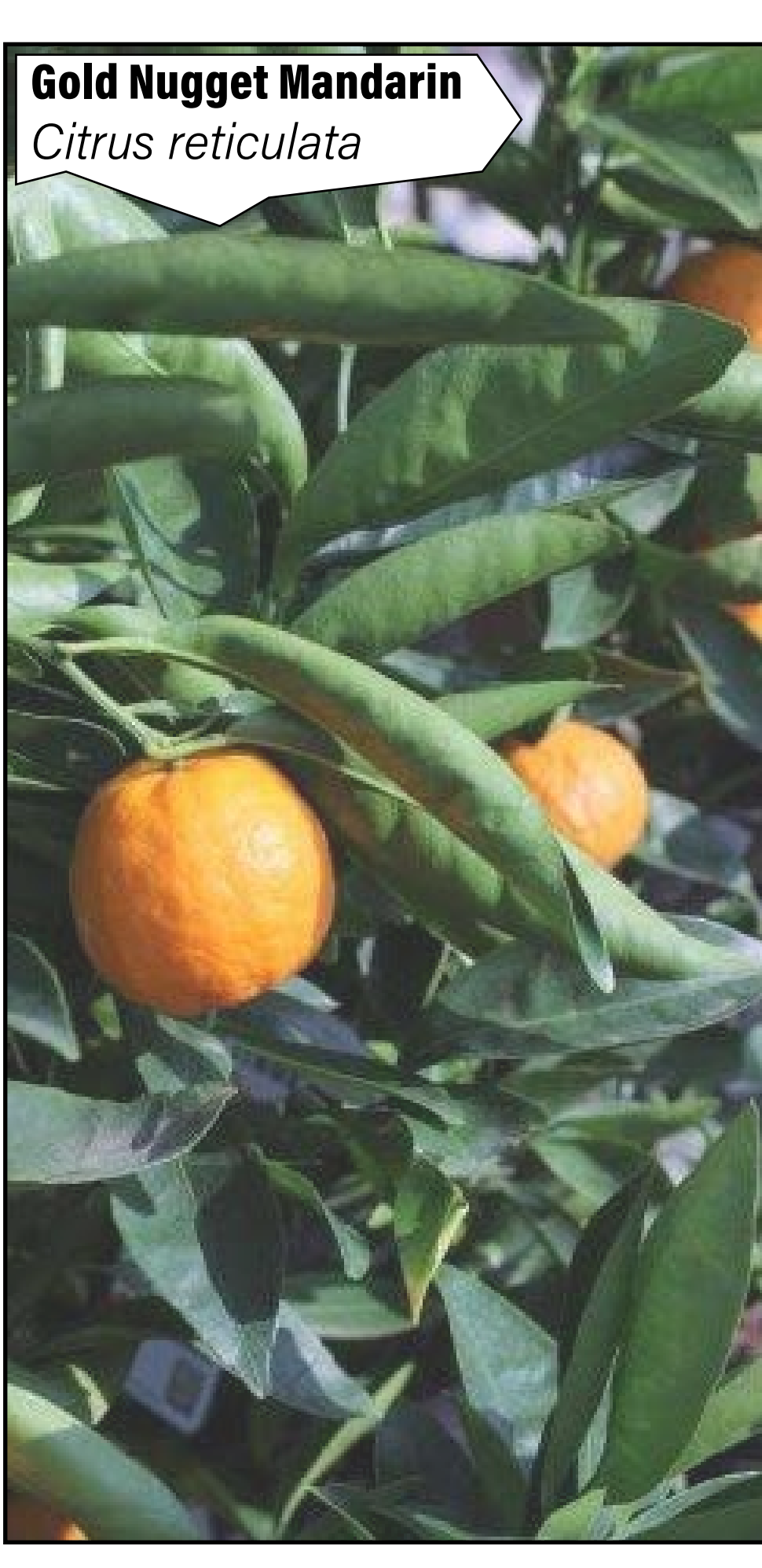
Bearss Lime
Citrus aurantiifolia 'Bearss'



Dwarf Meyer Lemon
Citrus x Meyer 'Improved'



Cara Cara Navel Orange
Citrus sinensis 'Cara Cara'



Gold Nugget Mandarin
Citrus reticulata



Borage
Borago officinalis



Sweet Alyssum
Lobularia maritima



Calendula
Calendula officinalis



Red Shiso
Perilla frutescens var. crispa



Korean Radish
Raphanus sativus var. longipinnatus

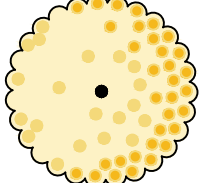
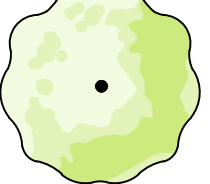
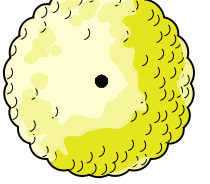
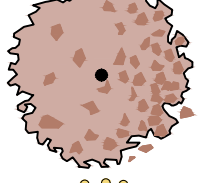
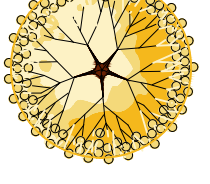
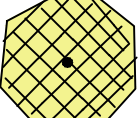
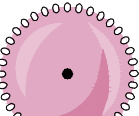
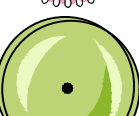
DWARFS

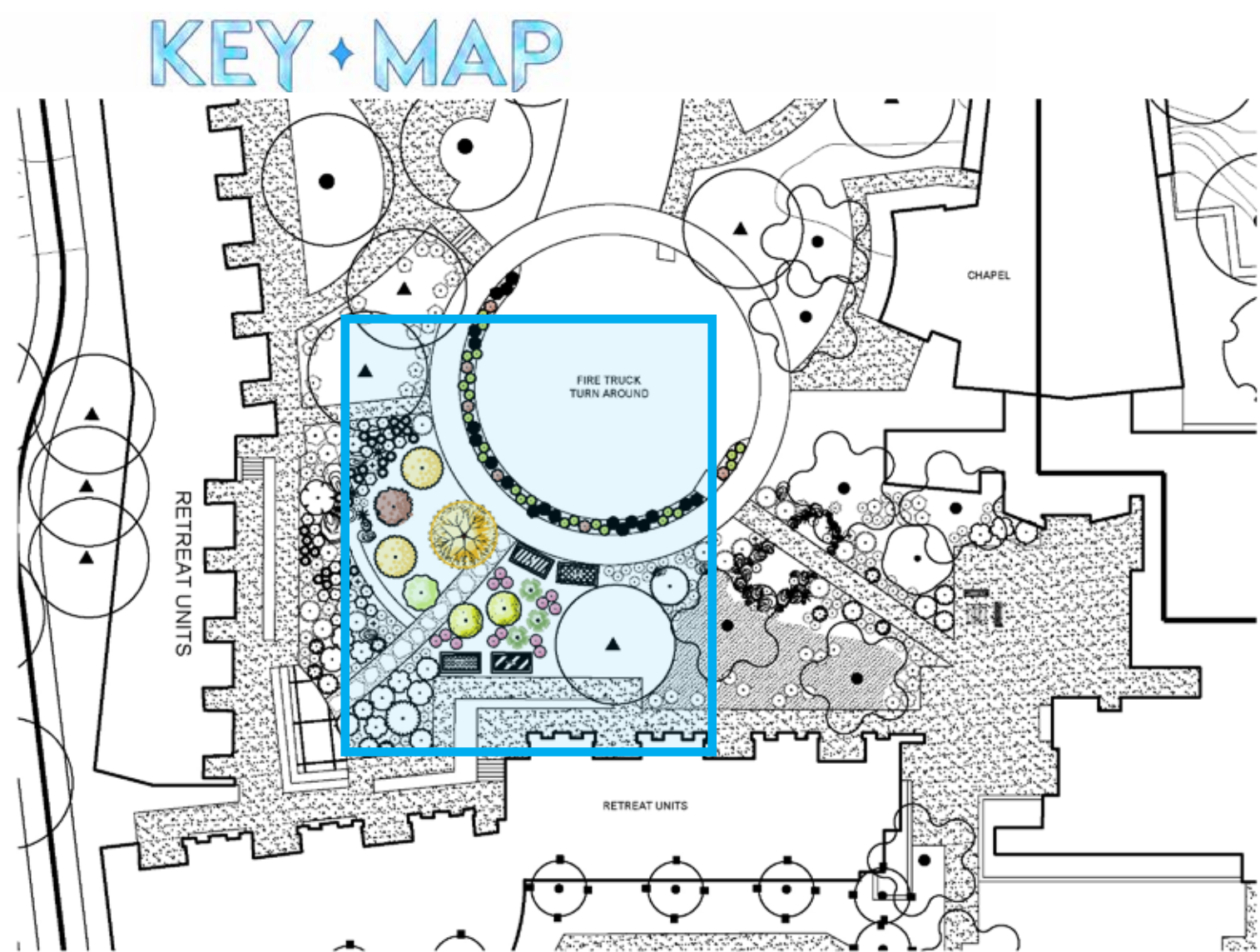
POLLINATORS

ENLARGEMENT

Nourishing Garden

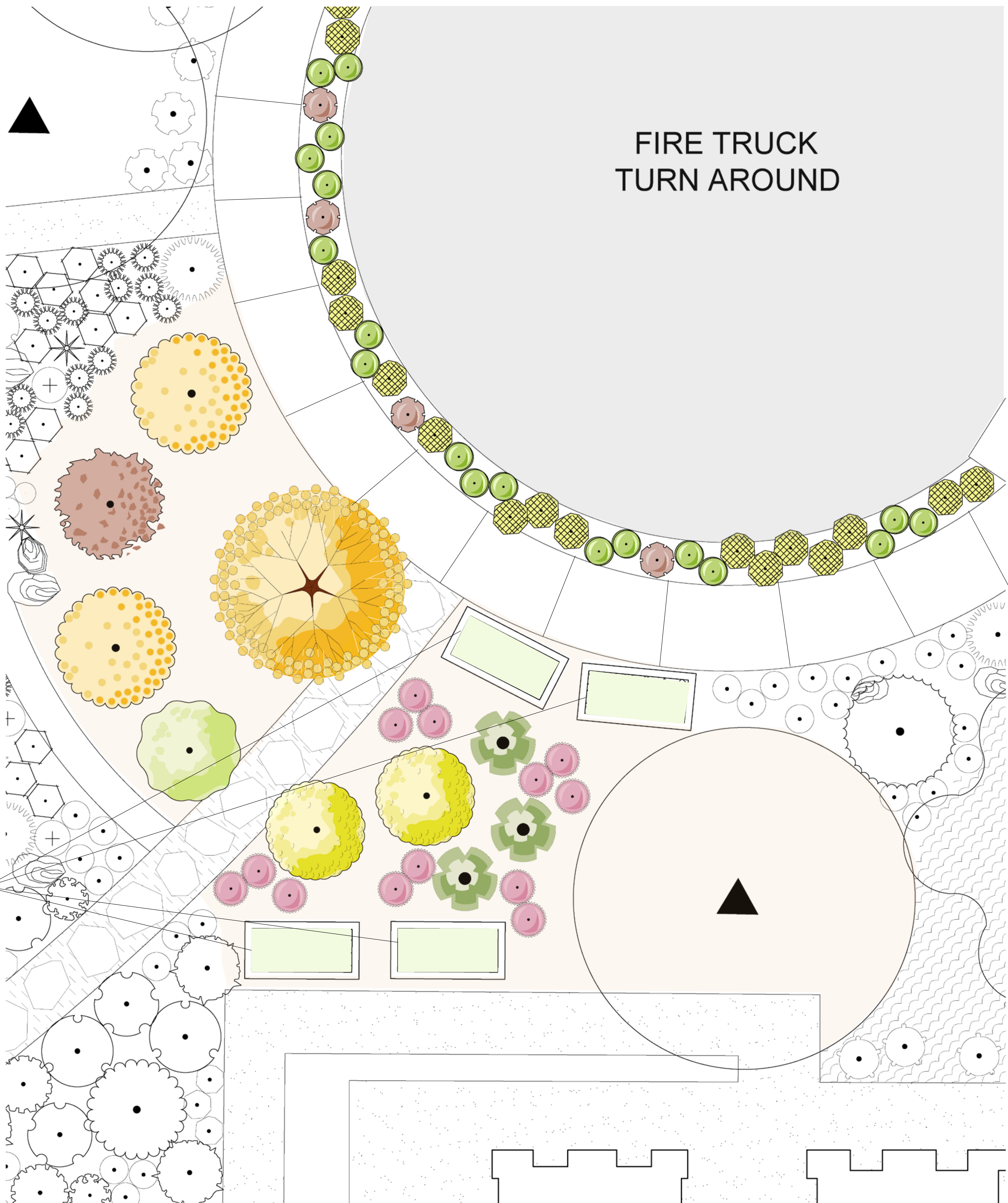
PLANT SCHEDULE NOURISHING GARDEN

SYMBOL	CODE	BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME	SIZE	CONTAINER	QTY
TREES					
	CIT GO2	Citrus reticulata 'Gold Nugget' / Gold Nugget Mandarin Orange	15 gal.		2
	CIT AUR	Citrus x aurantifolia 'Bearss Lime' / Bearss Lime	15 gal.		1
	CIT OXM	Citrus x meyeri Dwarf / Dwarf Meyer Lemon	15 gal.		2
	CIT CAR	Citrus x sinensis 'Cara Cara' / Cara Cara Pink Navel Orange	15 gal.		1
	DIO FUY	Diospyros kaki 'Fuyu' / Fuyu Persimmon	24"	Box	1
SHRUBS					
	ACH MIL	Achillea millefolium / Common Yarrow	1 gal.		19
	AGA RUG	Agastache rugosa / Giant Hyssop	1 gal.		13
	CAR PRA	Carex praegracilis / California Field Sedge	1 gal.		23
	CYN UPM	Cynara cardunculus 'Imperial Star' / Imperial Star Artichoke	5 gal.		3
	EPI HUM	Epilobium canum / California Fuchsia	1 gal.		6



0' 32' 64' 128'

SCALE 1/32" = 1'-0"



0' 4' 8' 16'

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

RAISED ♦ BEDS

BOX 1

Fall / Winter (Cool Season)

- *Brassica rapa subsp. pekinensis* / Napa Cabbage
 - *Allium fistulosum* / Green Onions
 - *Calendula officinalis* / Calendula
- *Pisum sativum* var. *macrocarpon* / Sugar Snap Peas
 - *Brassica rapa subsp. narinosa* / Tatsoi
 - *Coriandrum sativum* / Cilantro



Spring / Summer (Warm Season)

- *Cucurbita pepo* 'Aehobak' / Korean Zucchini
- *Tagetes patula* / French Marigold
- *Zea mays* / Sweet Corn
- *Ocimum americanum* / Lemon Basil
- *Amaranthus cruentus* / Amaranth



BOX 2

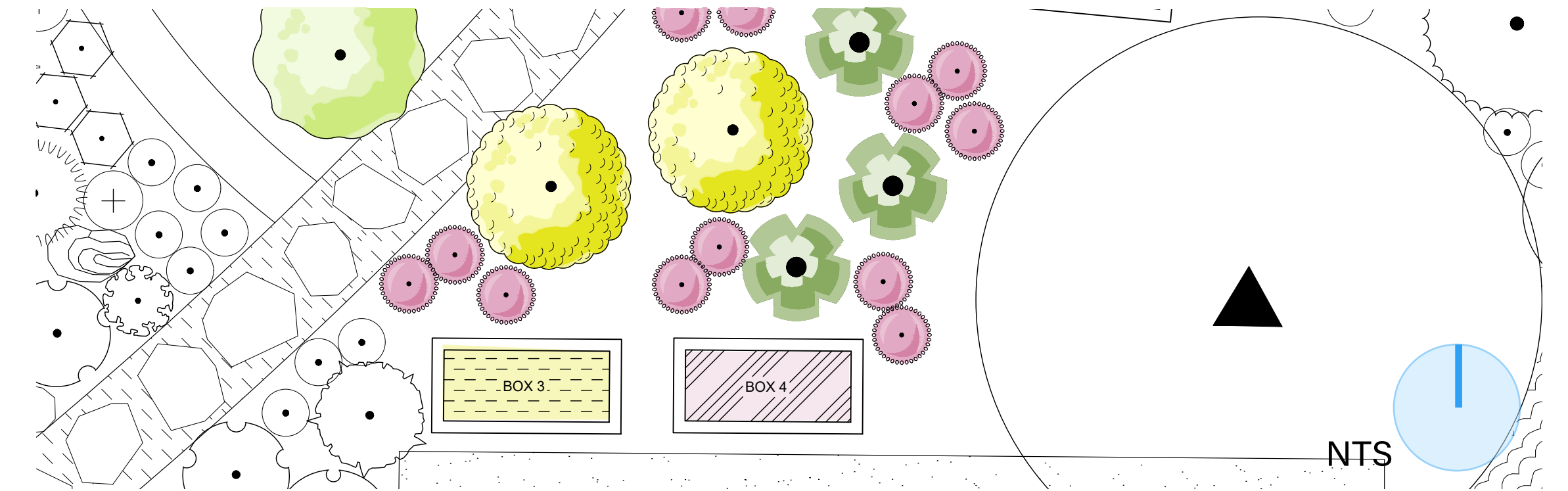
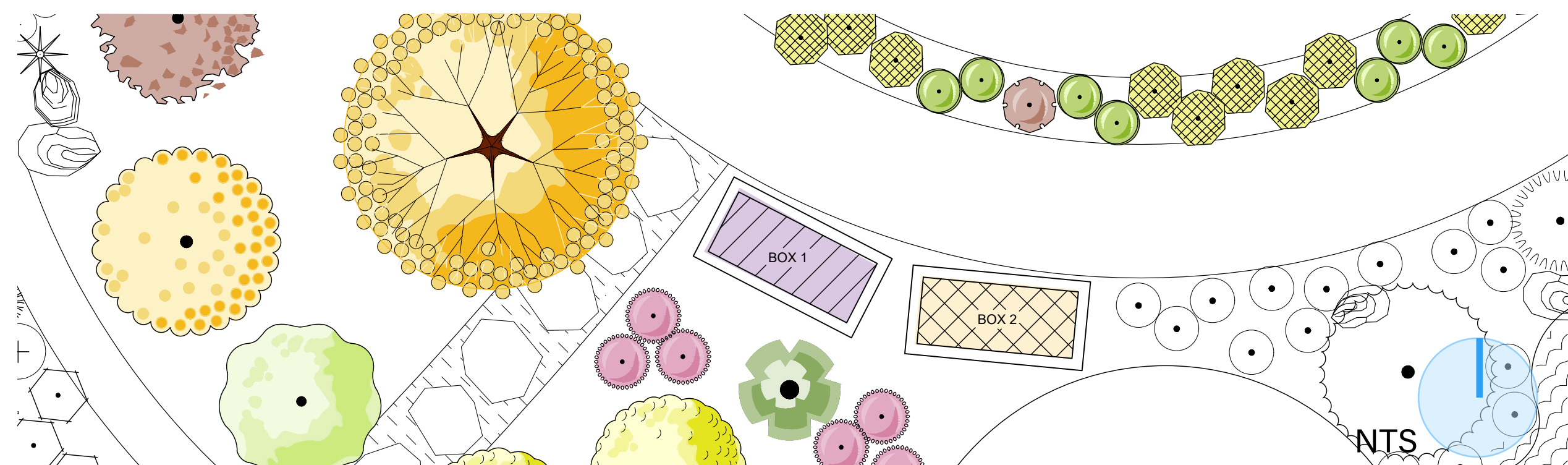
Fall / Winter (Cool Season)

- *Raphanus sativus* var. *longipinnatus* / Korean Radish
- *Lobularia maritima* / Sweet Alyssum
- *Vicia faba* / Fava Beans
- *Brassica rapa* var. *nipposinica* / Mizuna Mustard
- *Chamaemelum nobile* / Roman Chamomile



Spring / Summer (Warm Season)

- *Phaseolus vulgaris* / Bush Beans
- *Lobularia maritima* / Sweet Alyssum
- *Helianthus annuus* / Mammoth Sunflower
- *Ocimum tenuiflorum* / Holy Basil
- *Satureja hortensis* / Summer Savory



BOX 3

Fall / Winter (Cool Season)

- *Lactuca sativa* / Leaf Lettuce
- *Viola tricolor* / Johnny Jump-Up
 - *Vicia faba* / Broad Beans
- *Brassica rapa subsp. chinensis* / Bok Choy
 - *Anethum graveolens* / Dill



Spring / Summer (Warm Season)

- *Perilla frutescens* / Perilla Shiso
- *Abelmoschus esculentus* / Okra
- *Cymbopogon citratus* / Lemongrass
- *Ocimum basilicum* var. *thyrsiflora* / Thai Basil
- *Tagetes patula* / French Marigold



BOX 4

Fall / Winter (Cool Season)

- *Spinacia oleracea* / Spinach
- *Allium tuberosum* / Garlic Chives
 - *Pisum sativum* / Winter Peas
- *Brassica oleracea* var. *sabellica* / Curly Kale
 - *Anthriscus cerefolium* / Chervil



Spring / Summer (Warm Season)

- *Cucumis sativus* / Slender Cucumber
- *Allium tuberosum* / Garlic Chives
- *Borago officinalis* / Borage
- *Phaseolus vulgaris* / Pole Beans
- *Perilla frutescens* var. *crispa* / Red Shiso
- *Agastache foeniculum* / Anise Hyssop

*AI generated images of Garden Beds. To be used as a visual example of the various planting successions throughout the year.

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Family	Width & Height	WUCOL	Bloom Season	Summer Water Reduction	Soil Requirements	Maintenance	Soil & Irrigation
 Pacific Mist Manzanita <i>Arctostaphylos</i> x <i>‘Pacific Mist’</i>	Ericaceae	4-6’W x 2-3’ H	Low	Winter - Spring (White / Pale Pink)	Yes	Well-drained, sandy/ loamy, tolerates clay	Minimal pruning, clean dead wood	Mechanical Decompaction: Broadfork the area to 12 inches to break up valley compaction. Mineral Amendments: Incorporate pumice or small lava rock rather than heavy compost for the native shrubs (Ceanothus, Arctostaphylos, Trichostema). These plants prefer “lean” soil with low organic matter. The Mounding Technique: Plant the Woolly Blue Curls on slight mounds (3–5 inches high) to ensure water drains away from the crown, a critical step for preventing root rot in the San Fernando Valley. To meet the Sisters’ goal of a nourishing, contemplative space, the irrigation system combines automated efficiency with a “Healing Bib” for manual interaction. Automated Drip: Use low-flow inline drip tubing for the primary irrigation. This delivers water precisely to the root zones of the Ceanothus while keeping the foliage dry, which is vital for preventing fungal diseases. The Healing Bib (Self-Watering Option): Install a decorative copper or brass hose bib at a comfortable height (30–36 inches) in an accessible area. The Ritual: Provide a high-quality stainless steel watering can or a lightweight hose with a gentle-flow wand. Retreat guests can participate in the “nourishing” act by hand-watering the more moisture-receptive plants like Yerba Buena and Carex praegacilis. Benefit: This manual interaction serves as a “grounding” exercise, allowing guests to focus on the sensory experience of the water hitting the aromatic leaves of the Cleveland Sage and Yerba Buena.
 California Sagebrush <i>Artemisia californica</i>	Asteraceae	4-6’W x 3-5’ H	Very Low	Summer - Fall (Yellow/Green)	Yes	Tolerates poor, rocky, fast-draining	Cut back lightly in winter to shape	
California Field Sedge <i>Carex praegracilis</i>	Cyperaceae	(Spreading) 0.5-1’ H	Moderate	Spring - Summer (Brownish spikes)	Ok, but will go dormant	Moist, clay, loam, or sandy	Mow or cut back once a year in late winter	
 Ray Hartman Wild Lilac <i>Ceanothus</i> x <i>‘Ray Hartman’</i>	Rhamnaceae	10-15’W x 12-15’ H	Low	Late Winter - Spring (Medium Blue)	Yes	Fast-draining, avoid heavy wet clay	Prune lightly after bloom, tip pinch	
 Globe Thistle <i>Echinops ritro</i>	Asteraceae	2-3’W x 3-4’ H	Low	Summer (Steel Blue)	Yes	Dry to medium, well-drained	Deadhead to encourage rebloom, cut back in winter	
 Matilija Poppy <i>Romneya coulteri</i>	Papaveraceae	Spreading x 5-8’ H	Very Low	Spring - Summer (White with Yellow centers)	Yes	Fast-draining, sandy, handles clay	Cut to the ground in late autumn	
 White Sage <i>Salvia apiana</i>	Lamiaceae	3–5’ H x 3–8’ W	Very Low	Spring - Summer (White to Pale Lavender)	Yes	Fast-draining, gravelly, poor soil	Prune spent flower stalks in fall	
 Cleveland Sage <i>Salvia clevelandii</i>	Lamiaceae	3–5’ H x 5–8’ W	Very Low	Summer (Purple)	Yes	Fast-draining, rocky or sandy	Prune back by a third in late winter	
 Terra Seca Black Sage <i>Salvia mellifera</i> <i>‘Terra Seca’</i>	Lamiaceae	5-6’W x 1-2’ H	Very Low	Spring (Pale Blue / White)	Yes	Well-drained, slopes, tolerates clay	Minimal, trim edges if encroaching	
 Hummingbird Sage <i>Salvia spathacea</i>	Lamiaceae	1–2’ H x 3–5’ W	Low	Winter - Spring (Magenta / Deep Pink)	Yes, partial	Adaptable, rich loam to clay	Trim dry flower spikes, clear old leaves	
 Woolly Blue Curls <i>Trichostema lanatum</i>	Lamiaceae	4-5’W x 3-4’ H	Very Low	Spring - Summer (Deep Blue / Purple)	Yes	Highly well-drained, rocky/sandy	Do not mulch, prune lightly after bloom	
 Yerba Buena <i>Clinopodium douglasii</i>	Lamiaceae	3-6’W x 0.5’ H	Low to Moderate	Spring - Summer (White / Lavender)	Moderate	Rich, well-drained	Trim to contain spread if needed	
 Creeping Thyme <i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Lamiaceae	1-2’W x 0.25’ H	Low	Summer (Pink / Purple)	Moderate reduction	Sandy, gravelly, sharply drained	Shear lightly after bloom to keep dense	

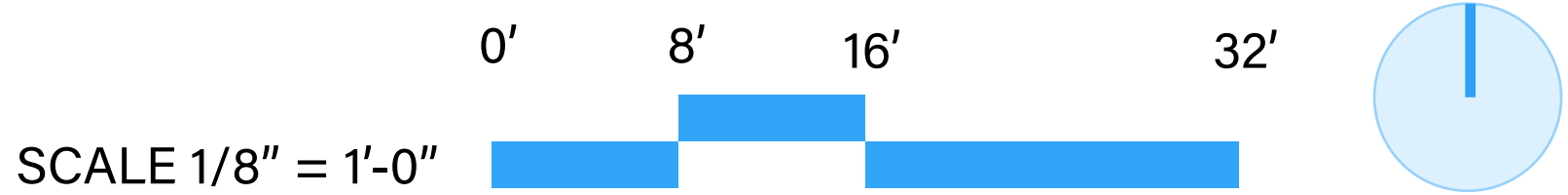
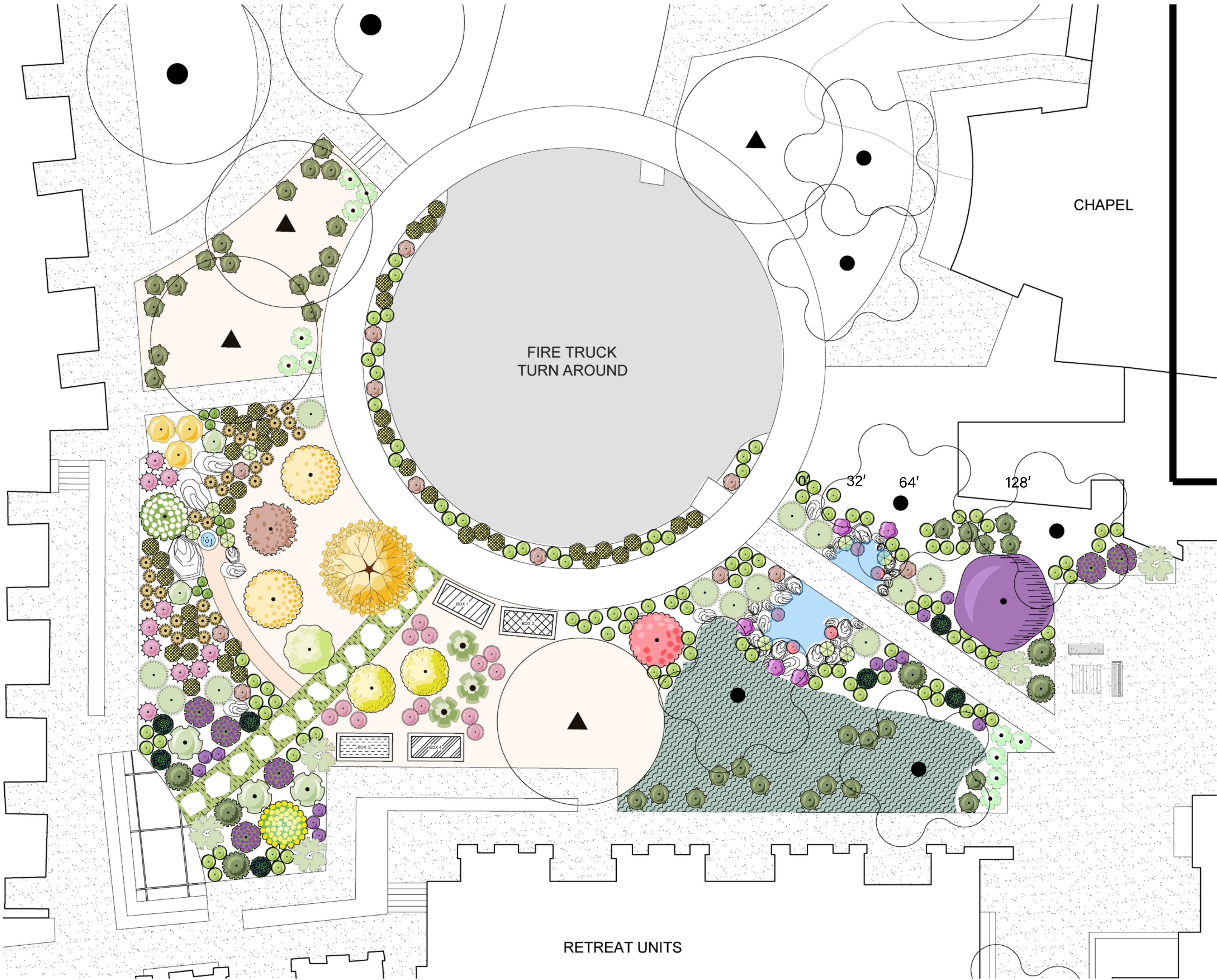
Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Family	Width & Height	WUCOL	Bloom Season	Summer Water Reduction	Soil Requirements	Maintenance	Soil & Irrigation
Common Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Asteraceae	2-3’W x 1-3’ H	Low	Late Spring - Summer (White/ Cream)	Low Reduction	Adaptable; shear spent flowers	Shear spent flowers to the ground after blooming to encourage new growth.	Engineered Bioretention Soil: In the ponding areas, amend the native soil with 20–30% coarse sand and 10–15% high-quality organic compost. This creates a “bioretention” mix that allows water to infiltrate at a rate of at least 0.5 to 1 inch per hour, preventing stagnant pools.
Dwarf Coastal Beach Sagewort <i>Artemisia pycnocephala</i>	Asteraceae	2-3’W x 1-2’ H	Low	Summer (Yellowish/ Inconspicuous)	Low Reduction	Sandy, rocky, or gravelly soils.	Prune lightly in late winter to maintain a tidy, compact, mounding habit.	
Blue Grama Grass <i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	Poaceae	1-2’W x 1-2’ H	Low	Summer (Purple-tinged tan flags)	Low Reduction	Rocky, avoid wet clay.	Cut back close to the ground in late winter before new spring growth emerges.	
California Field Sedge <i>Carex praegracilis</i>	Cyperaceae	(Spreading) 0.5-1’ H	Moderate	Spring - Summer (Brownish spikes)	Ok, but will go dormant	Highly tolerant of heavy clay and loam.	Mow low or edge 1–2 times per year to maintain a clean lawn-like appearance.	
Island Bush Poppy <i>Dendromecon harfordii</i>	Papaveraceae	6-10’W x 6-8’ H	Very Low	Year-round / Spring heavy (Bright Yellow)	Keep dry	Gravelly soil; highly prone to root rot.	Prune lightly after the main spring flowering flush to shape and control size.	Decompaction of Banks: For the upper banks, avoid heavy machinery to minimize soil compaction. Loosen the soil by hand or with a broadfork to ensure plants can establish deep roots for bank stabilization.
California Fuchsia <i>Epilobum canum</i>	Onagraceae	3-4’W x 1-2’ H	Low	Late Summer - Fall (Scarlet Red)	Low Reduction	Highly adaptable	Cut completely down to the ground in late winter to prevent woodiness.	
Douglas Iris <i>Iris douglasiana</i>	Iridaceae	2-4’W x 1-2’ H	Low	Spring (Purple/Blue-Violet)	Partial reduction	Rich, organic, loam	Manually pull or clear away old, dead, or decaying outer foliage blades.	
Spreading Rush <i>Juncus patens</i> ‘Elk Blue’	Juncaceae	2-3’W x 2-3’ H	Moderate	Summer (Golden brown cluster)	Needs damp rootzone	Adaptable; thrives in heave dense clay	Comb or rake out dead, brown structural stems periodically to refresh look.	Harvesting for Reuse: Design the ponding area as a collection basin. By installing a submersible pump and a simple filtration system, this water can be diverted to irrigate the Nourishing Garden during dry stretches.
Canyon Prince Giant Wild Rye <i>Leymus condensatus</i> ‘Canyon Prince’	Poaceae	3-4’W x 3-5’ H	Low	Summer (Silvery-tan spikes)	Low reduction	Adaptable to most soils	Cut hard to the ground every 2–3 years in late winter to refresh the foliage.	
Cardinal Flower <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Campanulaceae	1-2’W x 2-4’ H	High	Summer - Fall (Vibrant Crimson Red)	None	Highly moisture-retentive soils.	Deadhead spent flower spikes frequently to extend the blooming season.	
Sticky Monkeyflower <i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Phrymaceae	2-3’W x 2-3’ H	Low	Spring - Summer (Apricot/Orange)	Yes	Does well on sloped, rocky terrain.	Pinch tips back in winter to promote dense branching and more flowers.	Smart Scheduling: Use a soil moisture-based controller (Soil Moisture Sensor). In a rain garden, the soil stays wet longer than in a standard garden; a sensor will prevent the system from running if the basin is already saturated from a recent rain event or the sycamores’ shade.
Margarita BOP Penstemon <i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i>	Plantaginaceae	2-3’W x 1-2’ H	Low	Spring - Summer (Electric Blue & Purple)	Low Reduction	Well-drained soils; avoid heavy compost	Prune back lightly after the main summer bloom flush to maintain structure.	
California Wild Rose <i>Rosa californica</i>	Rosaceae	4-6’W x 3-6’ H	Low	Spring - Summer (Soft Pink)	Moderate reduction	Tolerates heavy clay	Prune structurally in winter to remove old wood and control running habit.	
Blue-eyed Grass <i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	Iridaceae	1-1.5’W x 1’ H	Low	Spring (Violet-Blue/ Yellow center)	Low Reduction	Highly adaptable	Can be sheared back close to the ground after summer seeding cycles finish.	Water Wise Technique: “Low and slow” watering (drip) allows moisture to penetrate deep into the Encino clay-loam, encouraging the deep rooting necessary for a resilient garden.

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Family	Width & Height	WUCOL	Harvest Season	Summer Water Reduction	Soil Requirements	Maintenance	Soil & Irrigation
Dwarf Gold Nugget Mandarin Orange <i>Citrus reticulata 'Gold Nugget' (Dwarf)</i>	Rutaceae	4-6’W x 4-6’ H	Moderate	Winter - Spring	Regular deep watering	Well-drained fertile loam	Prune out dense interior crossing branches to improve light and airflow.	Decompaction: Loosen the soil in the entire planting area (not just the holes) to a depth of 12 inches. Avoid “glazing” the sides of the planting holes, which can trap water like a bowl. Targeted Amendments: Mix 25–30% high-quality organic compost into the native backfill. Do not over-amend; the goal is to encourage roots to venture into the native soil for long-term stability. Blanket: Finish with a 3–4 inch layer of arborist wood chips to regulate soil temperature and suppress weeds. Keep mulch 6 inches away from the trunk flare to prevent rot. The Living Mulch: Immediately after planting, apply a 3-inch layer of straw or fine wood chips, keeps the surface cool and supports the soil microbes needed for nutrient cycling. (OPTIONAL) A NOTE ON GOPHERS: San Fernando Valley is prone to gophers. For the fruit trees and larger shrubs, install Gopher Baskets directly into the planting hole. For the Vegetable Garden, line the bottom of the mounded rows or planting areas with 1/2-inch hardware cloth. Lay the mesh 12 inches deep before backfilling with amended soil. Highly recommend utilizing water from the established water systems of the water garden to benefit the high water usage of the vegetable and fruit gardens. Frequency: For Leafy Greens and Fruiting Crops, deep water 3–4 times per week during summer. For Roots (Daikon/Garlic) and Herbs (Perilla/Mugwort), a deep soak 2 times per week is usually sufficient. Sensory Check: Just as in the healing garden, include a manual “watering ritual” spot, a hose bib with a gentle wand where retreat guests can participate in hand-watering the Korean Mint, fostering a mindful connection to the Ttang.
Dwarf Bearss Lime <i>Citrus x aurantiifolia 'Bearss' (Dwarf)</i>	Rutaceae	4-6’W x 4-6’ H	Moderate	Fall - Winter	Regular deep watering	Highly sensitive to wet clay.	Protect from heavy winter frosts; prune lightly to shape in early spring.	
Dwarf Meyer Lemon <i>Citrus x meyeri (Dwarf)</i>	Rutaceae	4-6’W x 4-6’ H	Moderate	Spring - Summer (Brownish spikes)	Regular deep watering	Moist, clay, loam, or sandy	Mow or cut back once a year in late winter	
Dwarf Cara Cara Pink Navel Orange <i>Citrus x sinensis 'Cara Cara' (Dwarf)</i>	Rutaceae	4-6’W x 4-6’ H	Moderate	Late Winter - Spring (Medium Blue)	Regular deep watering	Fast-draining, avoid heavy wet clay	Prune lightly after bloom, tip pinch	
Fuyu Persimmon <i>Diospyros kaki 'Fuyu'</i>	Ebenaceae	15-20’W x 15-20’ H	Moderate	Summer (Steel Blue)	Yes	Dry to medium, well-drained	Deadhead to encourage rebloom, cut back in winter	
Korean Mint <i>Agastache rugosa</i>	Lamiaceae	1.5-2’W x 2-3’ H	Moderate	Spring - Summer (White with Yellow centers)	Yes	Fast-draining, sandy, handles clay	Cut to the ground in late autumn	
Imperial Star Artichoke <i>Cynara cardunculus 'Imperial Star'</i>	Lamiaceae	3–5’ H x 3–8’ W	Very Low	Spring - Summer (White to Pale Lavender)	Yes	Fast-draining, gravelly, poor soil	Prune spent flower stalks in fall	

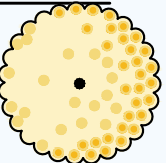
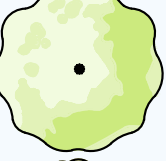
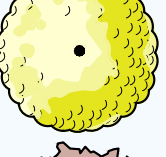
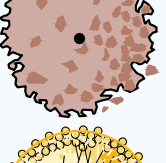
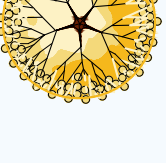
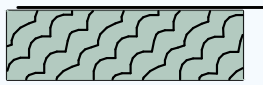
Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Garden Box Location	Bed Depth Need	WUCOL	Harvest Season	Raised Bed Management Strategy	Soil & Irrigation
Napa Cabbage <i>Brassica rapa subsp. pekinensis</i>	BOX 1	12"	High	Fall/Winter (Cool)	Susceptible to pests; use floating row covers early on.	For Deep-Root Beds (Boxes 1, 2 & 3): Ensure the bottom of the beds is completely uncompacted. Apply a 3-inch layer of clean, weed-free straw or shredded bark mulch over every inch of exposed soil. Unmulched raised bed soil can spike past 90°F in the summer, shutting down plant roots and baking shallow-rooted herbs like Garlic Chives and Chamomile. Heavy summer producers like Okra, Zucchini, and Corn will deplete the soil. Blanket the beds with 2 inches of fresh compost between your Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer crop successions.
Green Onions <i>Allium fistulosum</i>		6-8"	Moderate		Shallow roots; plant closely as an intercropped space-filler.	
Pot Marigold <i>Calendula officinalis</i>		8-12"	Moderate		Deadhead regularly to encourage continuous blooming.	
Sugar Snap Peas <i>Pisum sativum var. macrocarpon</i>		12"	High		Anchor trellis directly to the back of the bed frame.	
Tatsoi <i>Brassica rapa subsp. narinosa</i>		6-8"	High		Quick-growing	
Cilantro <i>Coriandrum sativum</i>		8-10"	Moderate		Tends to bolt quickly if soil temperatures rise too much.	Cool Season (Fall / Winter) Frequency: 2 to 3 days per week. Run Time: 15–20 minutes in the early morning (around 6:00 AM). Turn off irrigation if heavy storms expected. If it rains more than 0.25 inches, pause your automated irrigation timer for 5–7 days to prevent root rot in cold-weather crops. Warm Season (Spring / Summer) Frequency: Daily (or twice daily during Santa Ana winds events or triple-digit heatwaves). Run Time: 25–35 minutes split into two cycles. Strategy: Deep, slow saturation ensures moisture reaches the lower 12–24 inches of the bed. Never water overhead in the blazing afternoon sun; this causes rapid evaporation and scalds the dense foliage of Basil and Perilla.
Korean Zucchini <i>Cucurbita moschata ‘Aehobak’</i>		18-24"	High	Spring/Summer (Warm)	Heavy vining; let it trail over the bed walls to save space.	
French Marigold <i>Tagetes patula</i>		8-12"	Moderate		Emits roots that naturally repel garden nematodes.	
Sweet Corn <i>Zea mays</i>		24"	High		Plant in a tight block (not a single line) for proper wind pollination.	
Lemon Basil <i>Ocimum americanum</i>		8-10"	High		Pinch back flowering tips to prolong fresh leaf harvests.	
Amaranth <i>Amaranthus cruentus</i>		18-24"	Moderate		Grows tall quickly; position on the north side to avoid shading.	
Daikon Radish <i>Raphanus sativus var. longipinnatus</i>	BOX 2	24"+	High	Fall/Winter (Cool)	Needs a deep, uncompacted bed to grow straight roots.	
Sweet Alyssum <i>Lobularia maritima</i>		6-8"	High		Acts as a living mulch to shade the soil surface.	
Fava Beans <i>Vicia faba</i>		12–18"	High		Fixes nitrogen; cut at soil level post-harvest to leave roots.	
Mizuna Mustard <i>Brassica rapa var. nipposinica</i>		8-10"	High		High water needs; harvest outer leaves continuously.	
Chamomile <i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>		6-8"	High		Nice spill over the edges, but can dry out easily.	
Bush Beans <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>		12"	High	Spring/Summer (Warm)	Needs consistent moisture.	
Mammoth Sunflower <i>Helianthus annuus</i>		24"+	High		Massive root systems; place centrally to anchor the plant.	
Holy Basil <i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i>		8-10"	High		Keep well-watered during peak triple-digit summer days.	
Summer Savory <i>Satureja hortensis</i>		8"	Moderate		Thrives in the sharp drainage of a quality soil mix.	

Common Name <i>Botanical Name</i>	Garden Box Location	Bed Depth Need	WUCOL	Harvest Season	Raised Bed Management Strategy	Soil & Irrigation
Leaf Lettuce <i>Lactuca sativa</i>	BOX 3	6-8"	High	Fall/Winter (Cool)	Keep shallow roots moist to avoid bitter, bolting leaves.	For Deep-Root Beds (Boxes 1, 2 & 3): Ensure the bottom of the beds is completely uncompacted. Apply a 3-inch layer of clean, weed-free straw or shredded bark mulch over every inch of exposed soil. Unmulched raised bed soil can spike past 90°F in the summer, shutting down plant roots and baking shallow-rooted herbs like Garlic Chives and Chamomile.
Johnny Jump-Up <i>Viola tricolor</i>		6"	High		Compact edger; benefits from light afternoon shade.	
Bok Choy <i>Brassica rapa subsp. chinensis</i>		8-10"	High		Requires rich compost to build crisp, dense stalks.	
Dill <i>Anethum graveolens</i>		12"	Moderate		Deep taproot; excellent for attracting beneficial insects.	
Perilla <i>Perilla frutescens</i>		12-15"	High	Spring/Summer (Warm)	Keep pinched back to encourage dense, bushy growth.	
Okra <i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i>		18-24"	High		Requires heat; harvest pods daily so they remain tender.	Heavy summer producers like Okra, Zucchini, and Corn will deplete the soil. Blanket the beds with 2 inches of fresh compost between your Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer crop successions. Cool Season (Fall / Winter) Frequency: 2 to 3 days per week. Run Time: 15–20 minutes in the early morning (around 6:00 AM). Turn off irrigation if heavy storms expected. If it rains more than 0.25 inches, pause your automated irrigation timer for 5–7 days to prevent root rot in cold-weather crops.
Lemongrass <i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>		12-18"	High		Forms a large, dense clump; allocate plenty of bed space.	
Thai Basil <i>Ocimum basilicum var. thyrsoiflorum</i>		8-12"	High		Thrives in heat but wilts instantly if drip lines clog.	
Spinach <i>Spinacia oleracea</i>	BOX 4	8-10"	High	Fall/Winter (Cool)	Heavy feeder.	
Garlic Chives <i>Allium tuberosum</i>		8-12"	Moderate		Perennial nature; leave undisturbed along a border.	
Winter Peas <i>Pisum sativum</i>		18-24"	High		Excellent cold tolerance; needs support net or trellis.	Warm Season (Spring / Summer) Frequency: Daily (or twice daily during Santa Ana winds events or triple-digit heatwaves). Run Time: 25–35 minutes split into two cycles. Strategy: Deep, slow saturation ensures moisture reaches the lower 12–24 inches of the bed. Never water overhead in the blazing afternoon sun; this causes rapid evaporation and scalds the dense foliage of Basil and Perilla.
Curly Kale <i>Brassica oleracea var. sabellica</i>		12–18"	High		Deep roots; flavor improves significantly after winter frost.	
Chervil <i>Anthriscus cerefolium</i>		8"	High		Delicate herb; tuck underneath tall kale to shade it.	
Slender Cucumber <i>Cucumis sativus</i>		12–18"	High	Spring/Summer (Warm)	Needs a vertical trellis to keep heavy fruit off wet soil.	
Borage <i>Borago officinalis</i>		12-18"	Moderate		Wide spread; keep away from smaller creeping herbs.	
Pole Beans <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>		12-18"	High		Quick vertical climber.	
Red Shiso <i>Perilla frutescens var. crispa</i>		12-15"	High		Needs automated drip cycles to maintain leaf tenderness.	
Anise Hysop <i>Agastache foeniculum</i>		12"	Moderate		Incredibly popular with local bees; beautiful purple spires.	

THE SOUL GATE GARDEN



PLANT SCHEDULE - FULL SITE

SYMBOL	CODE	BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME	SIZE	QTY	
TREES					
	CIT GO2	Citrus reticulata 'Gold Nugget' / Gold Nugget Mandarin Orange	15 gal.	2	
	CIT AUR	Citrus x aurantiifolia 'Bearss Lime' / Bearss Lime	15 gal.	1	
	CIT OXM	Citrus x meyeri Dwarf / Dwarf Meyer Lemon	15 gal.	2	
	CIT CAR	Citrus x sinensis 'Cara Cara' / Cara Cara Pink Navel Orange	15 gal.	1	
	DIO FUY	Diospyros kaki 'Fuyu' / Fuyu Persimmon	24"	1	
SHRUBS					
	ACH MIL	Achillea millefolium / Common Yarrow	1 gal.	39	
	AGA RUG	Agastache rugosa / Giant Hyssop	1 gal.	13	
	ARC MIS	Arctostaphylos x 'Pacific Mist' / Pacific Mist Manzanita	1 gal.	11	
	ART CAL	Artemisia californica / California Sagebrush	1 gal.	5	
	ART PYC	Artemisia pycnocephala 'David's Choice' / Dwarf Coastal Beach Sagewort	5 gal.	2	
	BOU GRA	Bouteloua gracilis / Blue Grama Grass	1 gal.	28	
	CAR PRA	Carex praegracilis / California Field Sedge	1 gal.	109	
	CEA HAR	Ceanothus x 'Ray Hartman' / Ray Hartman Wild Lilac	15 gal.	1	
	CYN UPM	Cynara cardunculus 'Imperial Star' / Imperial Star Artichoke	5 gal.	3	
	DEN HAR	Dendromecon harfordii / Island Bush Poppy	5 gal.	1	
	ECH RIT	Echinops ritro / Globe Thistle	1 gal.	12	
	EPI HUM	Epilobium canum / California Fuchsia	5 gal.	12	
	IRI IRI	Iris douglasiana / Douglas Iris	1 gal.	5	
	JUN ELK	Juncus patens 'Elk Blue' / Spreading Rush	5 gal.	9	
	LEY CAN	Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince' / Canyon Prince Giant Wild Rye	5 gal.	12	
	LOB CAR	Lobelia cardinalis / Cardinal Flower	1 gal.	5	
	MIM AUR	Mimulus aurantiacus / Sticky Monkeyflower	5 gal.	3	
	PEN MAR	Penstemon heterophyllus 'Margarita BOP' / Margarita BOP Penstemon	1 gal.	10	
	ROM COU	Romneya coulteri / Matilija Poppy	5 gal.	1	
	ROS CAL	Rosa californica / California Wild Rose	1 gal.	1	
	SAL API	Salvia apiana / White Sage	1 gal.	3	
	SAL CLE	Salvia clevelandii / Cleveland Sage	1 gal.	6	
	SAL TER	Salvia mellifera 'Terra Seca' / Terra Seca Black Sage	1 gal.	6	
	SAL SPA	Salvia spathacea / Hummingbird Sage	1 gal.	36	
	SIS BEL	Sisyrinchium bellum / Blue-eyed Grass	1 gal.	9	
	TRI WOO	Trichostema lanatum / Woolly Blue Curls	1 gal.	7	
GROUND COVERS					
	CLI DOU	Clinopodium douglasii / Yerba Buena	flat	12' o.c.	93 flats
	THY SER	Thymus serpyllum / Creeping Thyme	flat	12' o.c.	15 flats