

**URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
of the
CITY OF TALENT**

Wednesday, August 5, 2015

6:00 p.m.

TOWN HALL

206 E. Main Street, Talent, Oregon

SPECIAL - MEETING AGENDA

6:00 p.m.

1.	Call to Order/Roll Call	
2.	Citizens Heard on Non-Agenda Items	
3.	New & Miscellaneous Business	
	3.1	Presentation from Bradley Wilson on proposed pollinator demonstration garden on public property near roundabout
4.	Discuss agenda items for August 19 regular board meeting	
5.	Adjournment	

*For further information: Details on agenda items can be viewed at cityoftalent.org;
at the Talent Urban Renewal Agency office (102 Home Street); or
at the City Hall front counter (please ask to see the current Board Packet)*



URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

of the City of Talent

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Executive Director's Report For

August 5, 2015

Prepared: 7-31-15

Pollinator Demonstration Garden Proposal: During Spring 2015, the TURA board discussed the idea of designating a pollinator-friendly zone on TURA-owned land near the roundabout that volunteers could design, plant and maintain to provide a year-round food source for pollinators. TURA would pay for plants, and hook up the irrigation to Main Street irrigation. The board enthusiastically endorsed this idea, and the concept was announced in the Flash to attract volunteers interested in working on the project. Brad Wilson, a Talent resident and Medford Oregon Chapter Vice President of AAPC, offered to spearhead the project and has been working on details since May. On June 16, he presented his ideas to the previous TURA board who expressed support of the concept – particularly Design 1 because its park-like look and greater visibility from street -- and asked him to visit the board again with costs. Mr. Wilson has collected a number of appropriate plants and seeds for his personal garden which can be donated to the pollinator garden, and has been working with Plant Oregon to refine his ideas and budget. He can also donate his time, help build planter boxes, and recruit other volunteers. A current estimate for cost of preparing the soil, buying plants, finishing the irrigation system, installing soil amendments and mulch, providing gravel for paths, and building a bench is approximately \$6,000. Also discussed was the idea of providing a sign and/or an educational display, still to be determined. Mr. Wilson will present the project concept again on August 5 to the new TURA board and answer any questions. Should the project get the go-ahead, the optimal time for planting is this Fall.

Agenda item: Hear presentation from citizen Bradley Wilson on proposed pollinator demonstration garden on public property near the roundabout, and consider action to be taken (authorizing the project as a TURA project, providing funding, etc.)

Discuss agenda items for August 19 regular meeting: This meeting will have a full agenda, with 4-5 resolutions preparing for the September 1 hand-off to city staff and a request from a property owner. It is anticipated that this will be the last board packet that I will prepare for TURA, and that September packets will be handled by city staff.

Agenda item: Discuss agenda items for August 19 regular board meeting...any additions?

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Cates, Executive Director

Request for Proposal

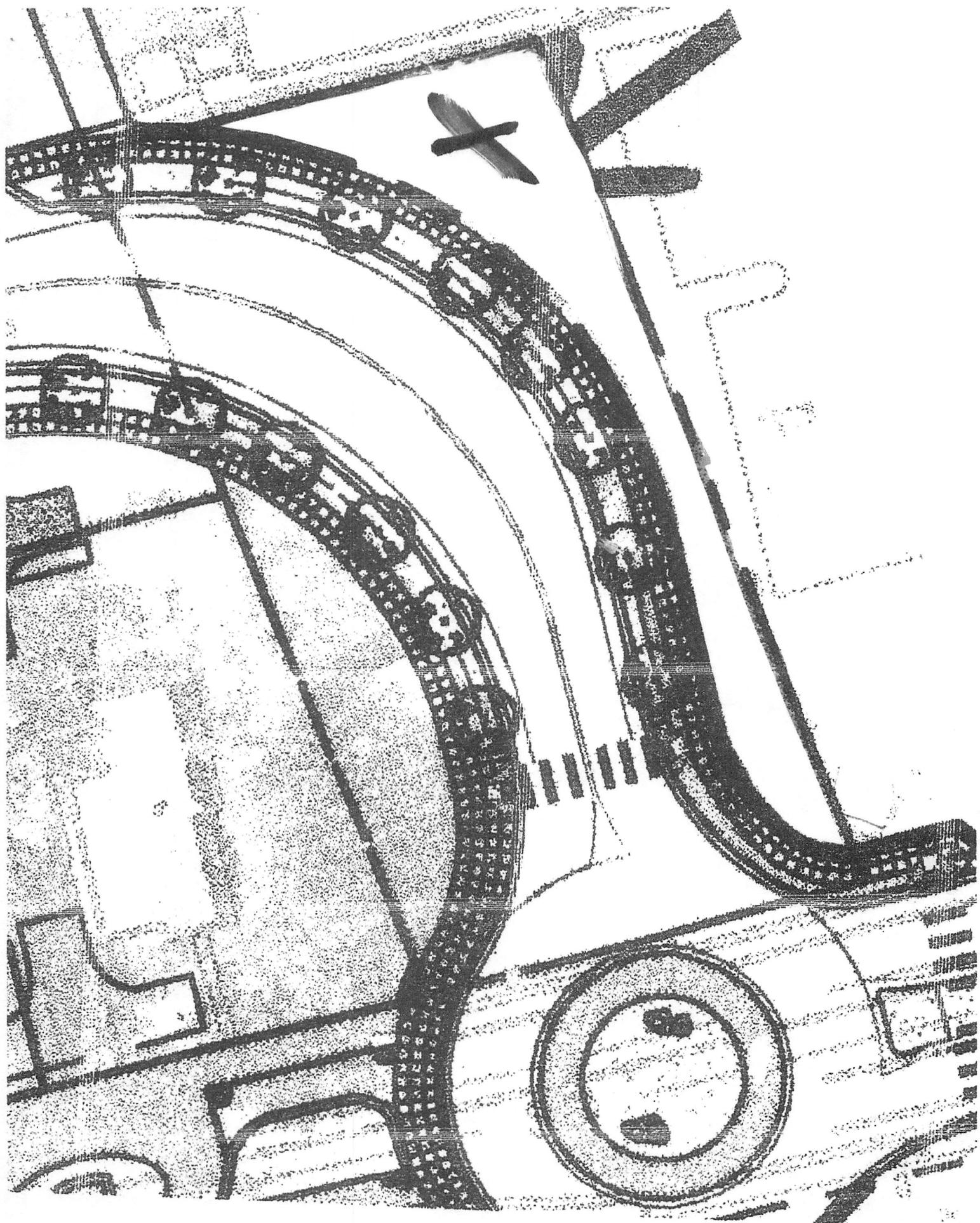
For the

**City of Talent
Talent Urban Renewal Agency**

West Valley View Native Plant Pollinator Garden Project

June 2015

**Prepared by:
Bradley S. Wilson**



Project Summary

Last year the City of Talent became the second Bee City USA, giving recognition to our busy friend the bee. Being a small town surrounded by farms, orchards, and vineyards, it is not hard to understand the important role pollinators play in the Talent community. There are also people who live in town that enjoy their backyard gardens, along with the bees, butterflies, and birds they attract. So there is good reason to keep Talent, Oregon a “bee friendly” city. In order to do so, one important step is providing welcoming places for pollinators to forage here in town.

In the Fall of 2014 myself and a local botanist, who is an expert in native plants, were asked by TURA to review the landscaping planned for the recently constructed West Valley View round-about area. We were asked to give some suggestions regarding food opportunities for pollinators and make any plant suggestions for the landscape plan. As a result of our suggestions, an idea was endorsed by TURA to build a pollinator garden adjacent to the round-about, and also sow wildflower seeds around the area.

The garden I am now proposing would be a strictly native plant garden, and would provide food for bees and other pollinators from Spring through Fall. It would also be a place where people can learn a little about native plants for pollinators and the different types they attract. They would be able to see first hand an example of how native plants can be used in a garden, and all of the busy bees buzzing around them.

As a volunteer gardener I am willing to do the brunt of the work. What is mostly needed from TURA is help preparing the soil, reimbursing and/or purchasing plants, and installing an irrigation system. I have studied native plants for pollinators for the past year and was the person who put together the native plant list that was used to help make Talent Bee City USA. I also have many years experience in organic gardening including working on organic farms, and building raised beds as part of my own land care business. I also have the support of some nearby native plant specialists who are able to provide plants and seeds, and intend to recruit the local Plant Oregon nursery for help.

Project Description

The space to be designated as the pollinator garden is located at the north east corner of the roundabout area, behind the vet's office and the liquor store parking lot. It is bordered on all sides by fencing, roughly forming a right triangle with sides running parallel to the roadway. I took measurements and believe the shrub borders would run at about 35 ft on the north and east sides along the fencing, the garden beds would lay inside the triangle with about a 50 ft mouth opening to the street. This would leave some open space in front where wildflower seed balls could be thrown in to the grass.

I have come up with two basic design ideas:

Design 1.

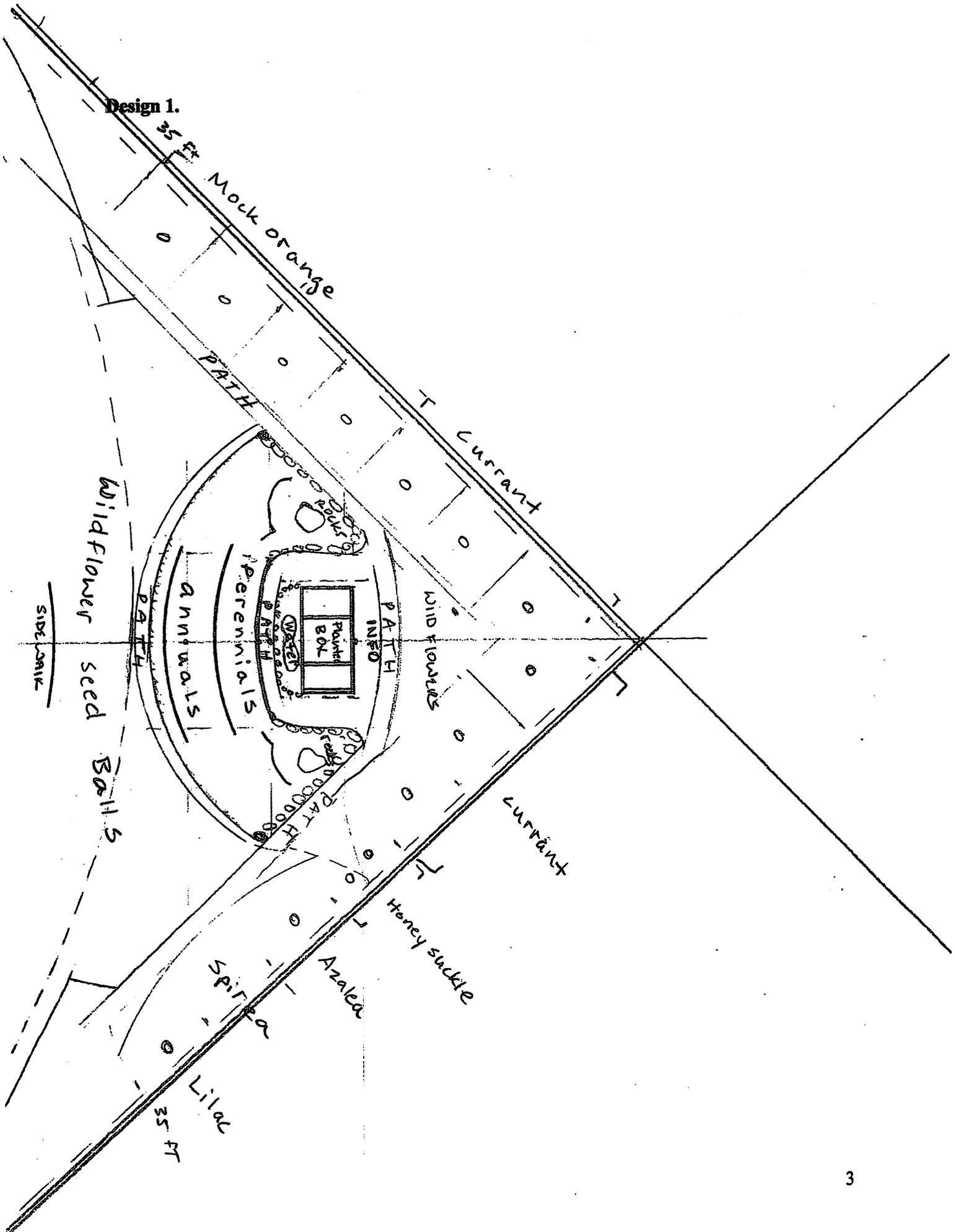
The first idea was modeled after other native gardens I've seen, and with the idea of providing a view of the flower beds to the street and people walking down the sidewalk. Low lying phase 1. plants (which are mostly annuals) would be planted in front, and taller phase 2. plants would be planted in the back in order to create an appropriate display to the public.

The borders of the beds would be formed essentially by the paths running around them in a somewhat circular fashion. Some amount of weed barrier could be used in the paths and openings of the beds, while the rest of the beds would be mulched with wood chips. Large rocks would be used to create a natural looking display.

I have the idea of placing a planter box on the far end, or perhaps a bench, that would be a focal point to place an information booth/box of some sort. It would also create a space where an instructor could stand and students could surround them by lining up along the pathways. All other open grassy areas could be sown with wildflower seed balls, so there would be a surrounding of wildflowers enclosing the space.

The shrub borders would be mulched and have water lines running along the beds. In my design for the shrubs there is an area on the southeast end that would require a little more water due to the plants are less tolerant of hot and dry conditions. The flower beds in general should require little watering other than a morning sprinkler system. There is one area in the design where there would be rocks used to create some pools of water. That area would provide water for the bees and plants found in wet areas in nature would be planted around it.

Design 1.



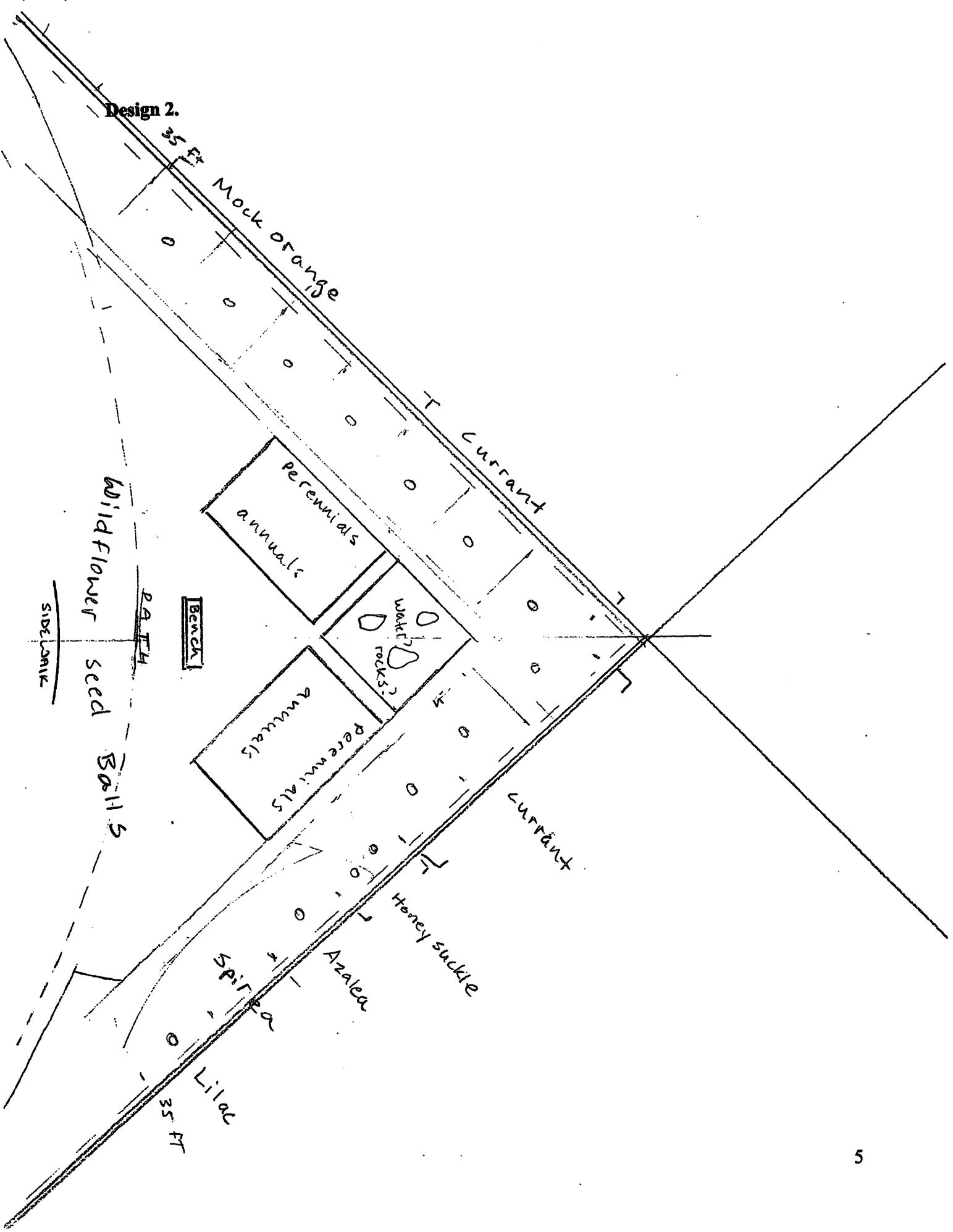
Design 2.

The design would be a bit simpler method of creating a native plant display. It would not be as open to the street view, but would be a more concise space to examine the different plants being used. The flower beds would basically run along the same lengths as the shrub border, creating a more dense plant space.

The space in front could be packed with gravel, perhaps using weed barrier underneath. The beds could incorporate wooden planter boxes or could be left more open, using some rocks around the edges. The side beds would be planted in a similar method as design 1. planting lower growing phase 1. plants in front , and the taller phase 2. plants in back.. The center bed area could run back into the shrub border creating a space for some wetter plants like columbine to grow behind the bed. Rocks could be used in that space to allow for water to pool for the bees, and plants found in wet areas in nature could be planted there.

The path leading to the garden would run in a curve just as the sidewalk does, from one end of the strip to the other. A bench could be place in the front opening of the space where a binder could be placed providing information about the garden and plants. The layout would also be functional for an instructor to stand in front of the plant beds facing the students who would spread out in the gravel area, and line up along the path. Wildflower seed balls thrown in the grassy open area along the sidewalk would create a wildflower enclosure.

Design 2.



Project Plant List

Phase 1 Plants

- ✦ Oregon Sunshine
- ✦ Blue-eyed Mary
- ✦ Rosy Plectritis
- ✦ Wallflower
- ✦ Checkermallow
- ✦ Coral Bells
- ✦ Baby Blue Eyes
- ✦ Penstemon
- ✦ Coyote Mint

Phase 2 Plants

- ✦ Slender Cinquefoil
- ✦ Showy Milkweed
- ✦ Aster
- ✦ Lupine
- ✦ Mules Ear
- ✦ Yarrow
- ✦ Golden Rod
- ✦ Red Columbine
- ✦ Ithuriel's Spear?
- ✦ California Fuchsia?

Shrubs/Vine

- ✦ Mockorange
- ✦ Red Flowering Currant
- ✦ Western Azalea
- ✦ Wild Lilac
- ✦ Douglas Spirea
- ✦ Orange Honeysuckle

Wildflower Seed Balls

- ✦ Lupine
- ✦ Daisy

