



**PARKS COMMISSION
HEMAN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
975 PENNSYLVANIA**

**Tuesday, January 17, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

- A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**
- B. ROLL CALL**
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 1) November 15, 2022
- E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**
- F. DEPARTMENT REPORT**
- G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**
- H. COMMISSION MEMBERS PARK INSPECTIONS REPORT**
- I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - 1) Metcalfe Park Improvements
 - 2) Parks Priorities
 - 3) Parks Centennial Update
 - 4) Recreation Priorities
- J. NEW BUSINESS**
 - 1) Mooney Park Improvements
 - 2) Public Art Request
- K. COMMISSION COMMENTS**
- L. ADJOURNMENT**



AGENDA ITEM COVER

MEETING DATE: January 17, 2023

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Parks Capital Improvement Priorities

AGENDA SECTION: Unfinished Business

BACKGROUND REVIEW:

Each year the City goes through the exercise of identifying projects, items, vehicles and equipment to be considered by the City Council for the adoption of a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the next five years. As part of the CIP, projects, items, vehicles and equipment must meet the criteria of either having a life span of at least seven years or must have an individual value of \$25,000 or more.

Over the past several years the Parks Commission has conducted an exercise in which they review, discuss and vote on the projects and the priorities of projects.

ACTION:

No action is necessary, however, there must be a motion and a second by a Commission member to make recommendations, and the motion must be approved by the majority of the Commission.

ATTACHEMENTS:

- 1) FY22 Park Capital Improvement Priorities



Darren Dunkle, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 505-8552

Parks & Recreation Improvements FY 2024- 2028 Priorities

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The City’s Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is generally based on projects and/or items that either have a life span of at least ten (10) years, and/or their individual costs are \$25,000 or greater.

Although there are several items and areas that need attention, priorities have been established based on the following criteria: 1) Budget; 2) Liability or safety issue; 3) Didn’t meet code/standards; 4) Need over want; and 5) Affected the use of the park or facility.

Parks & Recreation Improvements

FY 2024

Heman Park – Centennial Commons/Pool Restoration (Flood) **\$574,735**

Restoration of facility from the flood (Electric, Drywall, Flooring, etc.)

Heman Park – Jack Buck Field Restoration (Flood) **\$260,000**

This project consists of the furnishing and installation of DuraPitch mound clay to the batters box and catchers area; cut and line all sod edges; supply DuraEdge soil amendments and laser grade entire infield dirt areas; apply MVP conditioner.

Heman Park – Baseball Fields #1,#2,#6 Restoration (Flood) **\$225,000**

This project consists of the furnishing and installation of DuraPitch mound clay to the batters box and catchers area; cut and line all sod edges; supply DuraEdge soil amendments and laser grade entire infield dirt areas; apply MVP conditioner.

Dog Park – Restoration (Flood) **\$160,000**

Replace damaged fencing.

Mona Trail – Restoration (Flood) **\$500,000**

This project consists of the reconfiguring the current route of the trail and fence away from the banks of the River Des Peres. The trails current proximity to the eroding banks of the River Des Peres is causing both the perimeter safety fence and the trail itself to fail. Failure to make these improvements could lead to the closure of the trail.

Ruth Park – Golf Course Driving Range/Short Game Area **\$600,000**
(\$575,000 from Muni Grant - \$25,000 City Share)

Complete the next phase of renovations to the Driving Range; The existing wet pond has been silted in as part of the driving range runoff issues and may not be functioning as designed to be in compliance with DNR and MSD regulations; Complete the next phase of the short game area.

Ruth Park Golf Course - Golf Shop Exterior Repairs and Renovations **\$Unknown**

This project consists of painting; Replacement of front door; and provide ADA accessibility into the building.

Heman Park – Centennial Commons Soccer Roof **\$150,000**

Repair of deficient areas on the soccer dome roof.

Heman Park – Centennial Commons HVAC **\$100,000**

Repair/Replacement of deficient HVAC & Filtration system.

Update the 2008 Comprehensive Parks Master Plan **\$100,000**

The current Master Plan (2008) still has some validity, but the plan is fourteen (14) years old and needs to be updated as community views, needs and wants can greatly change, and it is recommended that Master Plans be updated every ten (10) years. The purpose of a Parks Master Plan is to develop a community-supported comprehensive plan that provides guidance for future development and redevelopment of the City's parks, recreation programming, open space, trails, and facilities. The process would include, but not be limited to Data Gathering & Background Review; Demographics and Trend Analysis; Park Inventory, Assessment, and Analysis; Level of Service Analysis and Mapping; Recreation Programming Assessment & Analysis; Community Needs Survey & Engagement; and Financial Planning & Implementation.

The Parks Master Plan shall guide policy development, prioritize demands and opportunities, and generate a strategic action plan to be updated every three-five (3-5) years. Moreover, the plan shall create a clear set of goals, policies, and objectives thus providing direction to City staff, Parks Commission, and the City Council. Implementation measures include short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals.

Heman Park - Site Master Plan **\$25,000**
(\$6,400 from Muni Grant - \$18,600 City Share)

Although the 2014 Master Plan has some good ideas, the plan needs to be updated. If funding and the Land, Water, Conservation Fund restrictions weren't an issue, the 2014 Master Plan would be a very good plan; however, the reality of being able to fund the suggested improvements as outlined in the plan may not be financially feasible at this point. Accordingly, a plan needs to be developed that is not only financially feasible but is a plan that can be actually implemented.

FY 2025

Heman Park - ADA Improvements

\$500,000

Although there are numerous improvements that need to be made to get into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – South Parking Lot and Drives

\$1,899,520

Although there are numerous improvements (Grading, paving, lighting, landscaping) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – Community Center and Employee Parking Lot Replacement

\$300,000

The drive and parking areas have been deteriorated and with the increased use by heavy trucks the pavement will only get worse. There are many potholes, sink areas, water ponding, overall ride and conditions have deteriorated this lot to substandard levels. Propose to mill the lot, resurface with asphalt, and concrete drive lanes to hold up to the heavy traffic.

The Public Works – Street Division who is responsible for this work will be making a funding request for this project.

Heman Park – South Athletic Fields

\$1,596,500

Although there are numerous improvements (Fencing, Bleachers, Irrigation, Lighting, Turf, etc.) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park - Pavilion

\$300,000

During our analysis it has been determined that the pavilion north of the south restrooms needs to be replaced. It is recommended that staff further explore and move forward with exploring the development of a new pavilion/band stage. However, in order for this to occur and to be functional for the band concerts that currently take place within the park, the proposed pavilion would need to be relocated up the hill closer to the restrooms and parking etc. This would possibly require the removal of a playground (slated to be removed and relocated later to develop a new All Abilities Playground).

Heman Park – Playground

\$782,000

Replace existing playground(s) with a new All Abilities Playground. Although this improvement needs to be made, it is recommended that this improvement take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – River Des Peres **\$1,340,000**

Although there are numerous improvements (Streambank stabilization, riparian corridor plantings) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park - Tennis Court Lights **\$75,000**

Although there are numerous improvements (Converting existing light fixtures to LED etc.) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – South Shelter Roofs **\$100,000**

Although there are numerous improvements that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – Beautification **\$100,000**

Although there are numerous improvements (Formal and informal landscaped beds, tree plantings, etc.) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Rabe Park - Site Master Plan **\$10,000**
(\$6,400 from Muni Grant - \$3,600 City Share)

Develop a Site Master Plan that would include but not be limited to the replacement of the existing Playground and surfacing, as well as providing ADA accessibility.

Rabe Park – Park Improvements **\$551,250**
(\$525,000 from Muni Grant - \$26,250 City Share)

During the audit analysis it was determined that the playground and surfacing at Rabe Park ranked the second highest of all playgrounds to be replaced. As such it is recommended that the City apply for a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the replacement of the existing playground and surfacing as well as needed ADA improvements to the park.

FY 2026

Lewis Park - Playground Improvement Plan **\$8,000**
(\$6,400 from Muni Grant - \$1,600 City Share)

Develop a Playground Improvement Plan that would include but not be limited to the replacement of the existing playground and surfacing, as well as providing ADA accessibility.

Lewis Park – Playground and Surfacing **\$551,250**
(\$525,000 from Muni Grant - \$26,250 City Share)

During the audit analysis it was determined that the playground and surfacing at Lewis Park ranked the third highest of all playgrounds to be replaced. As such it is recommended that the City apply for a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the replacement of the existing playground and surfacing as well as needed ADA improvements to the park.

Ruth Park Golf Course – Maintenance Facility Lot and Drive **\$250,000**

The drive and parking areas have been deteriorated and with the increased use by heavy trucks the pavement will only get worse. There are many potholes, sink areas, water ponding, overall ride and conditions have deteriorated this lot to substandard levels. Propose to mill the drive and lot, resurface with asphalt and concrete.

Fogerty Park - Habitat Project **\$Unknown**

Apply for a grant with the Missouri Department of Conservation to develop a Pollinator habitat area within Fogerty Park. The development of this habitat area would not only provide environmental benefits, it would also reduce the amount of turf grass that would have to be maintained.

FY 2027

Heman Park – Pool Painting **\$125,880**

Repainting of existing pools.

Metcalfe Park - Site Master Plan **\$10,000**
(\$6,400 from Muni Grant - \$3,600 City Share)

Develop a Site Master Plan that would include but not be limited to the replacement of the existing Playground and surfacing, as well as providing ADA accessibility.

Metcalfe Park – Park Improvements **\$551,250**
(\$525,000 from Muni Grant - \$26,250 City Share)

During the audit analysis it was determined that the playground and surfacing at Metcalfe Park ranked the fourth highest of all playgrounds to be replaced. As such it is recommended that the City apply for a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the replacement of the existing playground and surfacing as well as needed ADA improvements to the park.

FY 2028

Greensfelder Park - Phase 2 Park Improvements **\$Unknown**
(\$525,000 from Muni Grant - \$???? City Share)

In July of 2019 the Parks Commission voted to recommend moving forward with an application of a Municipal Parks Planning Grant for Greensfelder Park. The City received the Planning Grant from the St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grant Commission for the development of a Concept Plan. Since that time staff has hired and worked with a consultant to develop said Concept Plan. It is recommended that the City move forward with a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the development of Phase 1 of the project. This would go over very well with the St. Louis County

Municipal Parks Grant Commission as they funded the Planning Grant, and it would show that we are making progress towards the development of the park.

REFURBISHMENT/REPLACEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

The City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is generally based on projects and/or items that either have a life span of ten (10) years, and/or their individual costs are \$25,000 or greater. Accordingly, Capital Items (Under \$25,000 and over \$5,000 and have a life span of less than ten (10) years) that do not fit these requirements are budgeted within the General Operating Budget of the Department.

Although there are several items and areas that need attention, priorities have been established based on the following criteria: 1) Budget; 2) Liability or safety issue; 3) Didn't meet code/standards; 4) Need over want; and 5) Affected the use of the park or facility. As such I have prioritized the needs as listed below:

FY 2024

Heman Park - Basketball Court Resurfacing	\$12,500
Heman Park - Centennial Commons Gym Floor Sealing	\$ 5,630
Millar Park - Parking Lot Sealing and Striping	\$ 5,010
Metcalfe Park - Parking Lot Sealing and Striping	\$ 1,215
Kaufman Park - Parking Lot Sealing and Striping	\$ 2,125
Lewis Park - Trail Sealing	\$ 2,200
Mona Trail - Sealing	\$ 2,200
Greenway South - Trail Sealing	\$ 2,200
Park Site Furnishings	\$15,500
Ruth Park Golf Course - Maintenance Building Repairs	\$Unknown

FY 2025

Heman Park - Centennial Commons Gym Floor Sealing	\$ 5,800
Greensfelder Park - Parking Lot Sealing and Striping	\$ 6,000
Kaufman Park - Tennis Court Resurfacing	\$13,530
Heman Park - Centennial Commons Fitness Equipment Replacement	\$20,000
Park Site Furnishings	\$20,000
Ruth Park Golf Course - Maintenance Building Repairs	\$Unknown

FY 2026

Heman Park - Centennial Commons Gym Floor Sealing	\$ 5,975
Heman Park - Parking Lots Sealing	\$50,000
Heman Park - Trail Sealing	\$35,500
Park Site Furnishings	\$25,000

FY 2027

Heman Park - Centennial Commons Gym Floor Sealing	\$ 6,165
Flynn Park - Tennis Court Resurfacing	\$16,280
Majerus Park - Trail Sealing	\$ 2,810
Fogerty Park - Trail Sealing	\$ 4,475
Fogerty Park - Parking Lot Sealing and Striping	\$ 2,635
Ruth Park Golf Course - Parking Lot Sealing and Striping	\$ 7,660
Park Site Furnishings	\$30,000

DRAFT

City of University City Parks Commission Priorities Report 2022

James Wilke, President

Carl Hoagland, Member

Lisa Hummel, Member

Su Schmalz, Member

Margaret Ullman, Member

Darren Dunkle, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry

Steve McMahon, City Council Member

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Introduction

“The Park Commission is an advisory body consisting of seven members appointed by the City Council. All members must be residents of University City for at least two years immediately prior to their appointment. The duties of the Commission are to survey, advise and review plans for maintenance and improvement of University City parks, recreational facilities and activities; along with recommending rules and regulations for the administration of the activities of the Parks, Forestry, and Recreation department on related policy matters.

<https://www.ucitymo.org/276/Park-Commission>).

To accomplish the mission, the Commission regularly visits parks and reports issues at the Commission’s monthly meetings. Once a year the Commission prioritizes park and recreation projects. Commission members have been assigned parks as shown below..

Centennial Commons-----	Open
Heman Pool-----	Open
Community Center-----	Open
Ackert/Greenway South-----	James Wilke
Adams-----	Su Schmalz
Eastgate-----	Margaret Ullman
Flynn-----	Carl Hoagland
Fogerty-----	Open
Greensfelder-----	Open
Heman-----	Open
Kaufman-----	Su Schmalz
Kingsland-----	Margaret Ullman
Lewis-----	James Wilke
Majerus-----	Open
Metcalf-----	Carl Hoagland
Millar-----	Lisa Hummel
Mona Trail-----	Margaret Ullman
Mooney-----	James Wilke
Rabe-----	Lisa Hummel
Ruth Park Woods-----	Lisa Hummel
Ruth Park Golf Course-----	Su Schmalz

Project Descriptions from the Department

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is generally based on projects and/or items that either have a life span of ten (10) years, or their individual costs are \$25,000 or greater.

A description of the projects identified by the Department are set forth below with the descriptions provided by the Department. The Commission's votes and discussion regarding the reasons for the Commission's priorities is not reflected in these descriptions. The order of the project descriptions reflects the Department's priority order.

Greensfelder Park Phase 1

In July of 2019 the Parks Commission voted to recommend moving forward with an application of a Municipal Parks Planning Grant for Greensfelder Park. The city received the Planning Grant from the St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grant Commission for the development of a Concept Plan. Since that time staff has hired and worked with a consultant to develop said Concept Plan. During our evaluation and analysis of the site, we have determined that the biggest concern deals with the storm water runoff coming from adjoining neighbors, which has led to constant flooding of areas of the park which makes it unusable and affects maintenance and delivery. As such, it is recommended that the City explore grant opportunities to help fund Phase I of the project which would include solutions to the storm water issues.

Heman Park – Centennial Commons – EIFS Painting and Caulking

A partial restoration effort to the exterior walls at Centennial Commons was undertaken in 2017. The work consisted of installation of "weepers" to allow for positive moisture control of the wall system, and cleaning, prepping, painting, and caulking the stucco surfaces at two of the exterior walls at the gymnasium. Additionally, the CMU block surfaces were treated with a clear waterproofing compound and the pre-cast stone sills were pointed with a flexible mortar. Subsurface CMU blocks received an elastomeric coating to provide a waterproof barrier. The work addressed an immediate maintenance need and should reduce future maintenance costs both to the exterior and interior of the building. The Public Works – Facilities Division who is responsible for this work will be making a funding request for this work.

Update the 2008 Comprehensive Parks Master Plan

Although the 2008 Master Plan still has some validity, the plan needs to be updated. This in part can be accomplished by starting with a Needs/Wants Analysis. Much like the Citizen Satisfaction Survey, a public engagement process could include both public meetings and a citizen survey to determine the needs and wants of the community.

Update the 2014 Heman Park Site Master Plan

Although the 2014 Master Plan has some good ideas, the plan needs to be updated. If funding and Land, Water, Conservation Fund restrictions weren't an issue, the 2014 Master Plan would be a very good plan, however, the reality of being able to fund the suggested improvements as outlined in the plan isn't financially feasible at this point. Accordingly, a plan needs to be developed that is not only financially feasible but is a plan that can be implemented. It should be completed *after* MSD has made a decision regarding the placement of projected storage tanks.

Greensfelder Park Phase 2

In July of 2019 the Parks Commission voted to recommend moving forward with an application of a Municipal Parks Planning Grant for Greensfelder Park. The City received a planning grant from the St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grant Commission for the development of a concept plan. Since that time staff has hired and worked with a consultant to develop said concept plan. It is recommended that the City move forward with a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the development of Phase 2 of the project. This would go over very well with the St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grant Commission as they funded the planning grant, and it would show that we are making progress towards the development of the park.

Heman Park - ADA Improvements

Although there are numerous improvements that need to be made to get into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) Once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) Possible funding allocated from MSD; and 2) In coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – South Parking Lot and Drives

Although there are numerous improvements (grading, paving, lighting, landscaping) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) in coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park - Swimming Pool Pumps

As part of an ongoing maintenance plan, it is recommended that the pool pumps be replaced every seven to ten years. As such it is recommended that the Heman Park Swimming Pool pumps be scheduled to be replaced.

Heman Park - Pavilion and Bandstand

During our analysis it has been determined that the pavilion north of the south restrooms needs to be replaced. It is recommended that staff further explore and move forward with exploring the development of a new pavilion/band stage. However, for this to occur and to be functional for the band concerts that currently take place within the park, the proposed pavilion would need to be relocated up the hill closer to the

restrooms and parking etc. This would require the removal of a playground (slated to be removed and relocated later to develop a new all abilities playground).

A final recommendation from the Parks Commission needs to be made to replace the current bandstand. Will a new self-contained mobile stage unit be purchased that will provide users with more platform area, better acoustics, open air and better sight lines for audiences? The mobile stage is utilized for many community occasions and is also rented to outside organizations for special events. The existing stage is a 1994 model that no longer meets the needs of our regular users. A proposal put forward by the Parks staff supports eliminating the mobile stage and setting up a permanent stage in an existing park.

Heman Park – Beautification

Although there are numerous improvements (formal and informal landscaped beds, tree plantings, etc.) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) in coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – South Shelter Roofs

Although there are numerous improvements that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; and 2) in coordination with other individual improvements.

Heman Park – River Des Peres

Although there are numerous improvements (streambank stabilization, riparian corridor plantings) that need to be made, it is recommended that these improvements take place: 1) once we hear from MSD on the possible location of storage tanks within the park; 2) possible funding allocated from MSD; and 3) in coordination with other individual improvements.

Rabe Park – Playground and Surfacing

During the audit analysis it was determined that the playground and surfacing at Rabe Park ranked highest of all playgrounds to be replaced. As such it is recommended that the City apply for a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the replacement of the existing playground and surfacing as well as needed ADA improvements to the park.

Greensfelder Park Phase 3

The City received a planning grant from the St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grant Commission for the development of a concept plan. Since that time staff has hired and worked with a consultant to develop said concept plan. It is recommended that the City move forward with a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the development of Phase 3 of the project. This would go over very well with the St. Louis County Municipal Parks

Grant Commission as they funded the planning grant and it would show that we are making progress towards the development of the park. The question being asked by the Park Commission is whether a full park is needed in the area.

Ruth Park Golf Course – Short Game Practice Area

Completion of short game practice area and replacement of existing driving range tee turf.

Lewis Park – Playground and Surfacing

During the audit analysis it was determined that the playground and surfacing at Lewis Park ranked the third highest of all playgrounds to be replaced. As such it is recommended that the City apply for a Municipal Parks Construction Grant for the replacement of the existing playground and surfacing as well as needed ADA improvements to the park.

Ruth Park Golf Course – Main Building, Deck and Golf Cart Storage \$Unknown

The Commission voted in July 2019 to apply for a planning grant in 2020 to repair the golf shop and build an emergency shelter at the end of the driving range. To date this has not happened. This was deferred in place of funding for new netting and landscaping the driving range. The condition of the facility has deteriorated over the years. The masonry walls often leak during rain events, the stucco exterior walls are cracking and peeling, and the trim and walls need repair and painting. There is a need to improve aesthetics, eliminate yearly maintenance repair costs, provide a comfortable setting for guests and possibly add a concessions deck and below storage for golf carts.

Ruth Park Golf Course – Lights for the driving range

*Previously the driving range had lights. The lights should be reinstalled in such a way that they do not add additional lumens to the neighbors. The permit to install the lights still exists and the previous electrical conduit still exists. This should increase usage. The driving range is a moneymaker, and the addition of lights should increase revenues. Consideration of the management of the range at night must be addressed if the lights are installed.

Heman – Aquatics facility at Centennial Commons

An indoor aquatics facility would potentially attract more users to the Centennial Commons and could be a revenue generator. A study is needed to determine what would be attached to the current Centennial Commons facility. The expense is large, and it is anticipated that compensation from the MSD installation of tanks in Heman Park could fund the indoor aquatics facility.

PROCESS

This year the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department organized its priorities by listing projects with action dates. The Parks Commission reviewed the list of the Department's priorities and placed them into an order of most needed to least based on input from the Department, commissioner's park visits and monthly discussion in the commission meetings. The final list of priorities for the Parks Commission was finalized at the January meeting, and the list received a final vote at the February meeting.

Each priority includes a short description and page reference for additional information. They are listed in priority order according to three funding categories:

- Category 1, Over \$250,000
- Category 2, Over \$100,000 to under \$250,000
- Category 3, Under \$100,000

Please note that the decisions were made on a remote basis, thus tie votes were not decided as had been done in previous years. A quick summary shows that most of the priorities of the Parks and Recreation Department are congruent with the Parks Commission priorities. The major discrepancy is the lower priority placed on Greensfelder Park by the Parks Commission. Also, there are three items (*in italics*) that were not listed in the Parks, Recreation and Forestry document that received priority votes from the Parks Commission.

Category 1: Projects over \$250,000

Title	Short Description	Page	Park Staff priority	Proj. Comp Date	Park Commission priorities
Heman Park	ADA improvements	p. 6		FY24	1st (tie)
Heman Park	Playground	No Description		FY 24	1st (tie)
Rabe	Playground & surfacing	p. 7		FY 24	1st (tie)
Ruth Park	Deck & golf cart storage	p. 7		No date given	3rd (tie)
Lewis Park	Playground & surfacing	p. 7		FY 24	3rd (tie)
Heman Park	South parking lot & drives	p. 6		FY 24	6th (tie)
Heman Park	River Des Peres	p. 6		FY 24	6th (tie)
Greensfelder	Phase 1 development	p. 5		FY 24	No votes
Greensfelder	Phase 2 development	p. 6		N/A	No votes
Greensfelder	Phase 3	p. 6		N/A	No votes

Category 2: Projects over \$100,000 and under 250,000

Title	Short Description	Page	Park Staff priority	Proj. Comp. Date	Park Commission priorities
Heman	Centennial Commons- EIFS painting & caulking	p. 5		FY 23	1st (tie)
Heman	Swimming pool pumps	p. 6		FY 24	1st (tie)
Heman	South shelter roofs	p. 6		FY 24	1st (tie)
Ruth	Driving range lights	p. 7		N/A	3rd
Heman	Park pavilion & bandstand	p. 6		FY 24	4th
Ruth	Maintenance lot and drive	Completed		FY 25	5th
Heman	Beautification	p. 6		FY 24	No votes
Ruth	Centennial Commons aquatic center	p. 7		N/A	No votes

Category 3: Projects under \$100,000

Title	Short Description	Page See doc., Parks & Recreation Programs 2022	Park Staff priority	Proj. Comp. Date	Park Commission priorities
Heman	Tennis court resurfacing & signage	No description		FY 23	1st
Metcalfe	Playground surfacing/ADA improvements	No description		FY 26	2nd (tie)
Heman	Basketball court resurfacing	No description		FY 24	2nd (tie)
Kaufman	Tennis court resurfacing & signage	No description		FY 25	4th
Ruth	Short game practice area	p. 7		N/A	No votes
All parks	Update 2008 comprehensive parks master plan	p. 5		N/A	No votes
Heman	Update 2014 Heman master plan	p. 5		FY 23,? after MSD Plan	No votes

Conquest

Levi Gentry

University City Public Art Series Proposal

Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts

Washington University in St. Louis

December 14, 2022

About the work:

Much of my practice revolves around current modes of urban planning as they pertain to land politics, so this opportunity to create site specific work in University City is very exciting to me. *Conquest* responds to the American propensity to stake claim and fill vacant space with built structures.

Telephone poles are so ubiquitous that they often go unnoticed when people encounter them in their day-to-day lives, but what's so intriguing about them to me is that they are intrinsically common amongst people because they are a direct consequence of human settlement. My work augments this widespread symbol, as it appears like an imposter with its rather smooth appearance, but also because of the many houses crowded along its side. These houses speak to the current state of settlement, but they feel distinctly American, which implicates the work into its University City and the present moment.

The houses feel clustered, though they only crowd the western half of the telephone pole, and they seem to grow larger the further west they get. This suggests the houses desire to be in line with the American worldview, i.e. the cultural west, but their propensity to move west also recalls patterns of white flight in University City, and the United States at large. I would thus like to construct my proposed sculpture along Ackert walkway. On site, the walkway is a transitional space which recalls my inspiration, but the Delmar Loop is also commonly said to divide "good" neighborhoods from "bad" ones due to historic redlining.

Telephone poles serve as a connector between lands, but also a marker of distance. Land is a shared linkage, but land also quite literally can serve to divide people. My work makes the case that the American sensibility of land occupation and use creates a systemic imbalance of equality.

Physical Overview:

Conquest is a large-scale sculpture which resembles a telephone pole that has many small-scale houses seemingly growing off of it. If constructed, it will be located on Ackert walkway, along the western side of the sidewalk. It will stand some twelve feet tall, which will feel

gargantuan in relation to the human figure, but will appear very small for a telephone pole. This uncanny scale, alongside its contrasting smooth appearance, will flag the telephone pole as a phony and suggest that something unusual is going on. As the viewer nears the structure, the houses reveal themselves because of their small scale, that being some one to three inches across. This decision ensures that the work is rewarding from both far away and close up. The houses will be placed very tightly near one another so that they coalesce to make a large conglomerate. They will be placed on the west-facing side of the telephone pole as if they were growing along that side. The houses will be colored varying shades with wood stain. There will be many different house types with several key differences being the amount of floors, whether they are single or multi-family, and the architectural styles they would reference. All home types will be shown at varying scales, with the largest homes being upon the westmost side, and the scale decreasing as the homes move further from the apparent center of the houses.

Construction:

The sculpture will first be constructed by digging a hole into the ground, some four feet deep and a foot and a half across. Then I will fill the hole with concrete around an angle iron structure which I will attach the sculpture to. This will be enough foundation for the sculpture to resist weather or other intervention. The angle iron in concrete will then be fastened to the first layer of the sculpture, which is made up of ringed layers that stack to create the final work. These ring layers will then be joined incrementally by drilling lumber to link them in the work's center. The wooden houses will be joined to the wooden base off site prior to install, so that the construction may go quicker. I will stack the modules until the work is assembled at its twelve foot height.

Budget:

1/2-in x 4-ft x 8-ft Whitewood Sanded Plywood	\$71.82
x 4	
	\$287.28
Severe Weather 4-in x 4-in x 8-ft #2 Ground Contact Wood Pressure Treated Lumber	\$39.59
x 4	
	\$158.36
Grade A36 Hot Rolled Steel Angle - 2" X 3" X .188" X 90"	\$ 44.85
x 4	
	\$179.40
Valspar Pre-tinted Transparent Exterior Wood Stain and Sealer (1-Gallon)	\$45.98
x 1	
	\$45.98
Semi-transparent Exterior Wood Stain and Sealer (1-quart)	\$20.98
x 5	
	104.92
QUIKRETE ProFinish 5000 80-lb High Strength Concrete Mix	\$7.18
x 6	
	43.08
Titebond III Ultimate Wood Glue Brown Waterproof Interior/ Exterior Wood Adhesive (Actual Net Contents: 16-fl oz)	\$10.48
x 1	
	\$10.48
Durham's Rock Hard 4-lb Interior/Exterior Off-white Patching Compound	\$10.78
x 1	
	\$10.78

Power Pro #8 x 1-1/4-in Epoxy Exterior Wood Screws (200-Per Box)	\$10.98
	x 1
	\$10.98
Hillman 1/4-in x 1-1/2-in Stainless Coarse Thread Interior/Exterior Carriage Bolt	\$0.97
	x 24
	\$23.28
Hillman 1/4-in x 20 Stainless Steel Hex Nut	\$0.32
	x 24
	\$7.68
	SUBTOTAL: \$882.22
	TAX: \$85.92
	TOTAL: \$968.14

Conquest

Rendered Perspective View

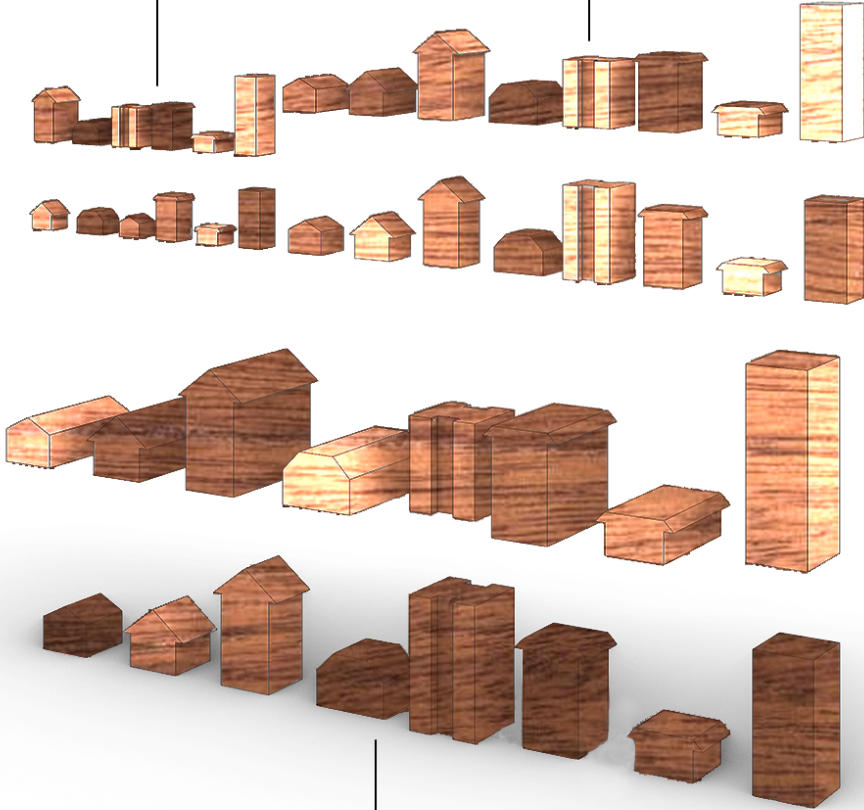


Conquest

House Detail View

~1" Wide

~2" Wide

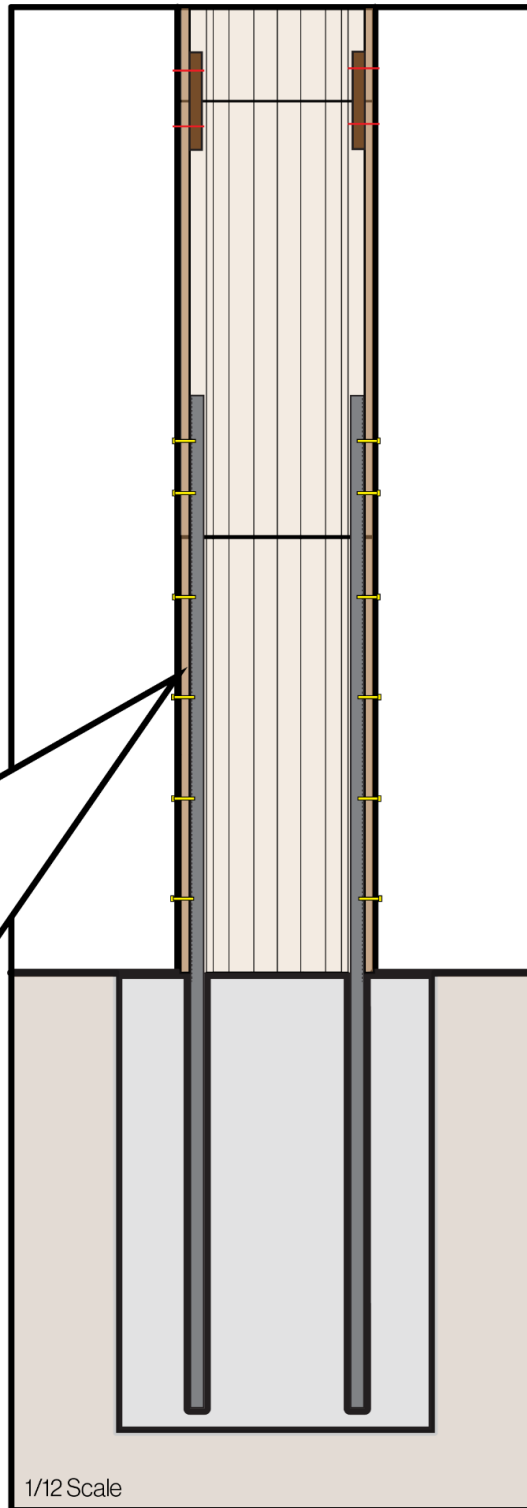
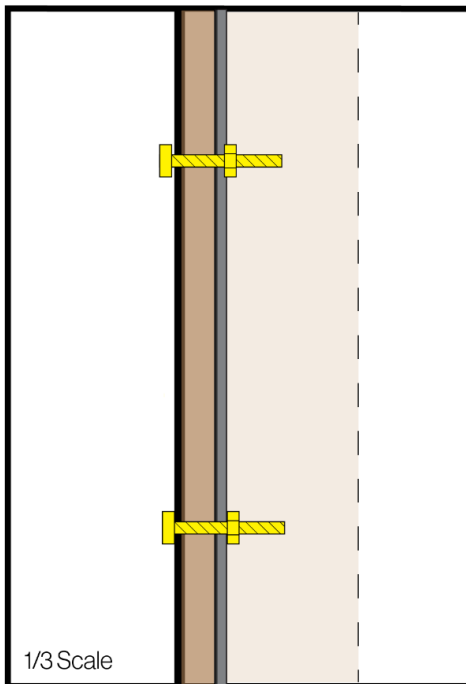


~3" Wide

Conquest

Section View

-  Plywood Exterior
-  Wood Interior Framing
-  Angle Iron Bracing
-  Concrete Foundation
-  Bolts/Nuts
-  Screws



Six Singers of the New Space Opera

Alex McLaughlin

University City Public Art Series Proposal

Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts

Washington University in St. Louis

December 14, 2022

Proposal:

Susan Lowe is a 41-year-old woman who lives at 732 Pennsylvania Avenue – she has a dog, a 3 year old, and a job as a marketer. Every morning she gets up and walks her dog in Lewis Park, holding a coffee and listening to the latest self-help podcast. She is more than just this physical iteration of herself though – she has a Facebook wall, listens to Spotify, and is represented as a data point in endless iterations of corporate databases. She’s a person, but in that person there’s an experience of chronic online-ness that separates the body into two extremes – the physical, and expirable, body, and the digital archive of her that will exist forever. But Susan Lowe also doesn’t exist. She’s a fabricated character that has its origin in the false archives of a digital space, created by me as an illustration of the paradox of chronic online-ness. What does it mean to start with the digital archive as the true soul of the person, and then translate that into a physical space?

To live chronically online is a truly contemporary phenomenon. There has never been a more inviting time to gain meaning from the life lived digitally – 0s and 1s can manipulate and drive a person to the same emotional ends as any real stimulus. But is this necessarily a bad thing? Or is it just a symptom of our incredibly basic desire to spread as far and wide for validation. But in that persistent use of digital space, parts of us get embedded in the digital world that are harder and harder to remove – these fragments left behind are traces of chronic online-ness, and for me, represent an endlessly intriguing iteration of the human self.

6 Robots of the New Space Opera illustrates this paradox between the chronically online life and the physical space necessitated by having a body. In this paradox, the bodies will be represented by concrete boxes, that are the size and weight of a human body. To loop back to the example of Susan Lowe, her box will be 68 liters, and 132 pounds. Embedded in this box is a flash drive that links to pages of Susan’s existence – a Spotify Page, a Facebook Wall, a Wikipedia Page. This installation will have 6 of these boxes, placed at three different sites, all varying in size and weight according to the body that they represent. Each of these characters that are represented through the boxes will be placed at a site in University City that has a particular relevance to the fabricated person. Susan Lowe will be placed in Lewis Park, and the other characters will be placed in locations around University City that are incorporated in their biography in order to confuse the paradox of whether or not these people exist online or as physical forms.

The boxes will be made out of white concrete and placed on top of stands in each of the locations. The white concrete signifies a cleanliness, while also using an industrial material – the bodies are constructed in the same way that a building is constructed, and that metaphor is particularly apt seeing as these people exist mostly as manifestations of an online presence. As seen in my construction diagram, as well, they will be anchored to the ground and constructed so that the weight of the object will not cause any issues to public safety.

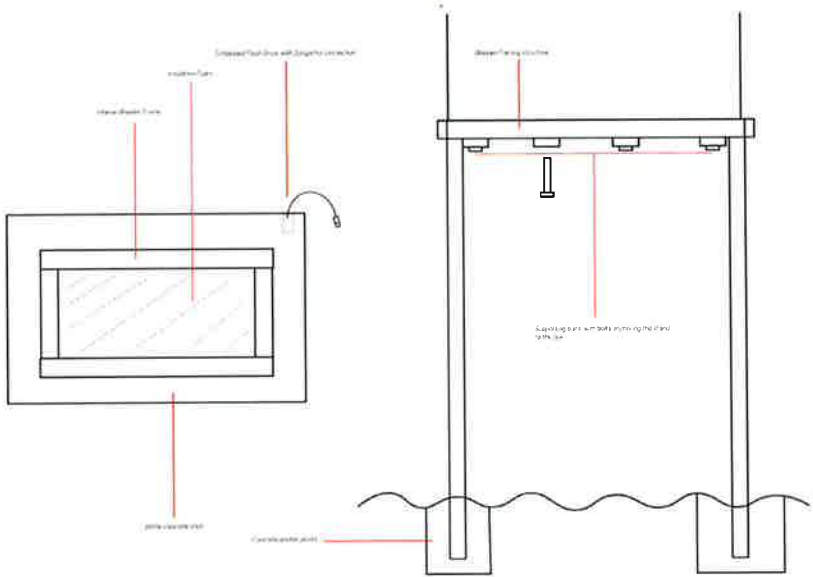
A public audience that sees and interacts with these works will likely be left with more questions than answers – are these people real? Why are they placed where they are? Why are we being given digital material as a stand in for a physical presence? These questions form the crux of this work. There is a permanence to the digital presence of these fabricated people that is not reflected in their physical box form – these boxes will have to come down, and the concrete iterations will eventually be destroyed. But what lives on in perpetuity is their digital self. The human body has an expiration date, but what is left to linger is what I am proposing to be a more contemporarily important and relevant part of the human self – a digital archive that tells the story and the life of the person who has unknowingly created it.

Budget:

12 bags of white cement	\$440
4x 2 by 4 dimensioned lumber	\$22
2x 4 by 8 foot, 1 inch thick insulating foam	\$40
1x 4 by 8 foot by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch MDF	\$35
6x flash drives	\$24
6x dongles	\$72
$\frac{1}{2}$ inch by 10ft rebar	\$6
Quikcrete	\$12

Total: \$651

Building Plan:



Spatial Mockup:



Aerial Maps of Locations:



**Alkaline Drift
Grace Buyers**

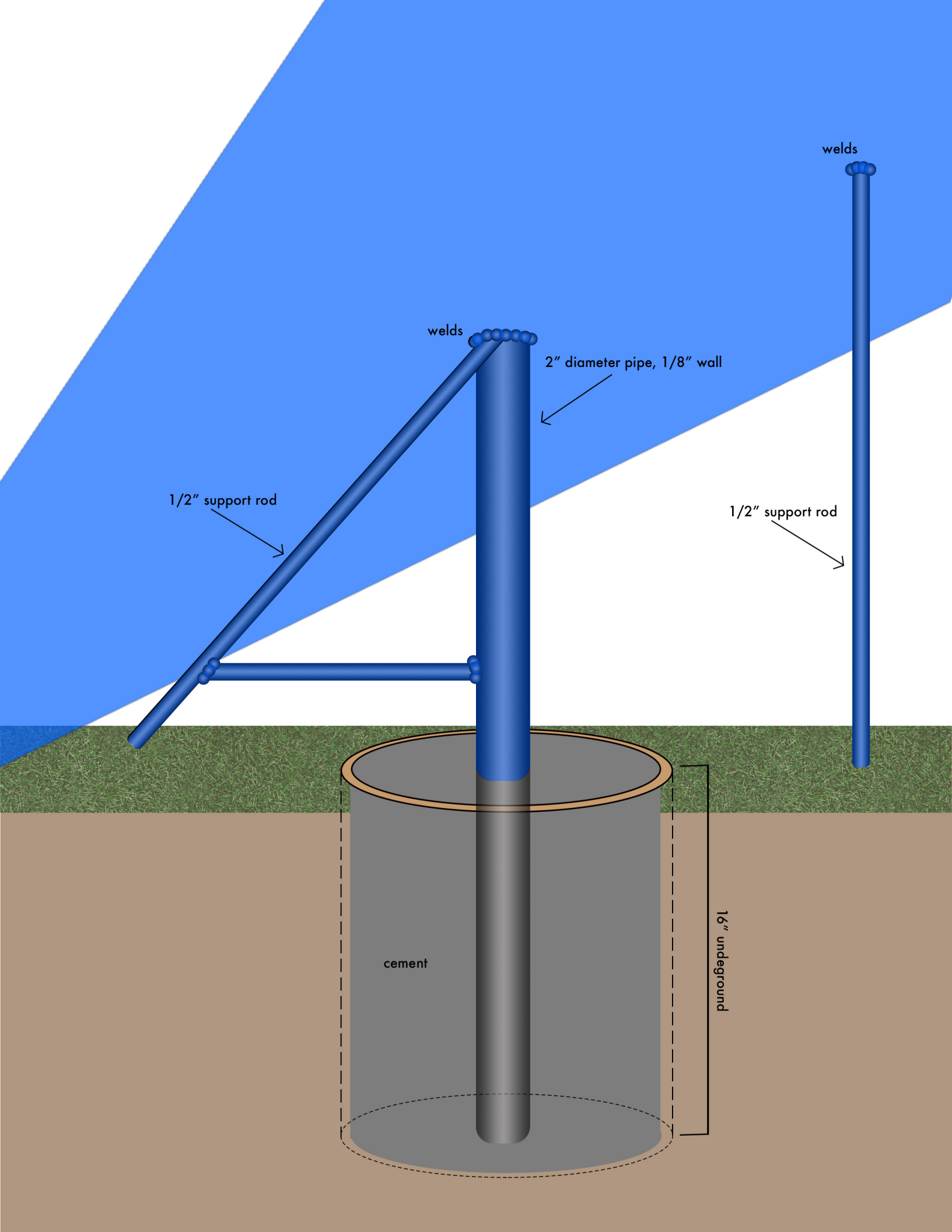
**University City Public Art Series Proposal
Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts
Washington University in St. Louis**

The development of my interest in public works has corresponded with my education in sculpture as I have always seen the potential of my forms to exist outside. It has been in my practice to imagine my formal, gestural object-making on a larger scale, in a public place -- This project is an opportunity for me to explore that imagination. For me, the public sculptures I interact with mark my movement through a space regardless of time, and some; such as Dan Graham's Bisected Circle which I greet on my walk to and from class, or Niehaus's Apotheosis of Saint Louis, a destination of my daily walks through Forest Park; are objects I look forward to experiencing daily and in new lights. They mark moments in the paths I walk over and over and provide a respite where I am removed from thinking about where I am going and what I have to do. Public sculptures interrupt the chaos and afford a few seconds of breath just for you to be curious for a moment without having to visit a museum. And every day that question you ask of the artwork can change and evolve.

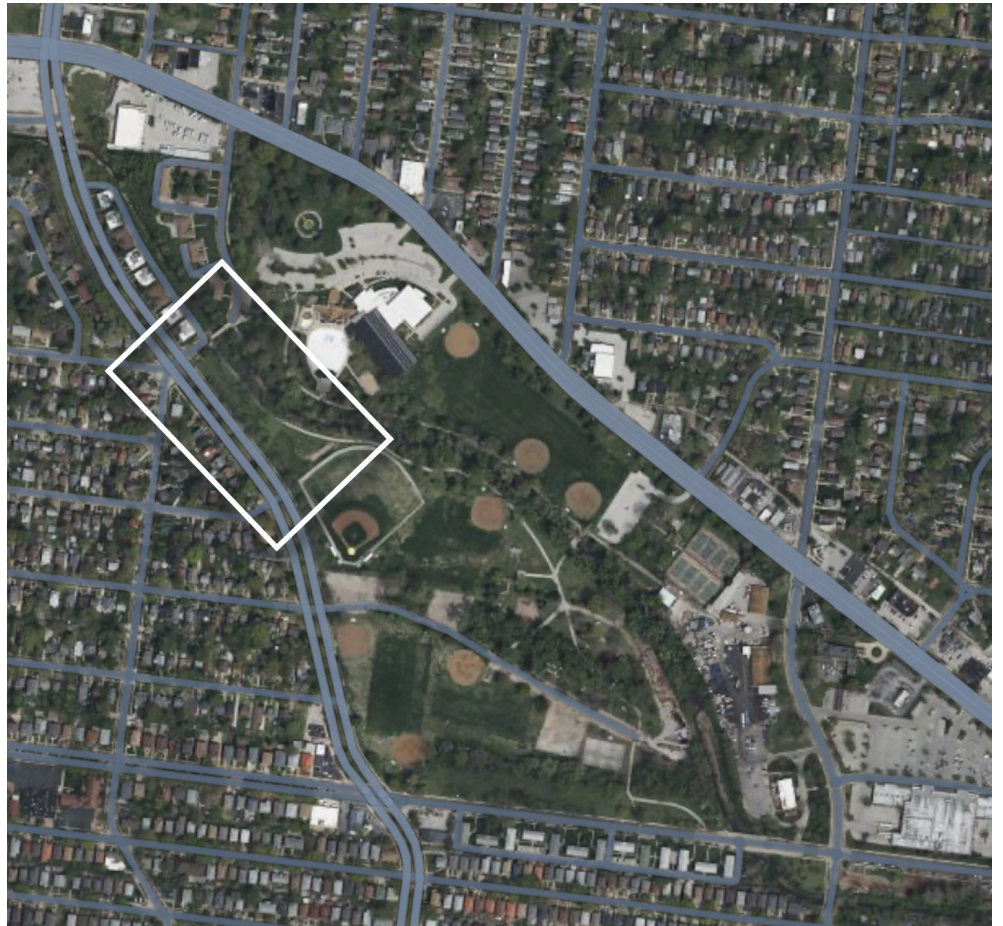
Approaching the section of Hemen Park Between Midland and the river, a viewer will discern my piece, Alkaline Drift, composed of five abstract steel elements which morph as you go down the line. The sculpture materializes as the viewer walks around the parts and sees the geometric forms growing along the ground. The work is of familiar geometric shapes without clear identity: it is up to the viewer to find relationships across the evolution of the five forms and ponder the shift from one to the next. As the steel constructions are geometric yet floral, I am playing with the idea of nature and the depiction of blossoming as a familiar subject. Making the growing, changing form abstract and of hard material, it bounces between formal flowers and industrialist elements, even a computer loading sign: an attempt to merge classical and current ways of depicting change.

Fabricating this work will be both analog and digital. Utilizing a plasma cutter, the forms are cut using a computer-operated system and then will be bent and pieced together. Installing it into the landscape will require steel supports and concrete footings.

I want to place this sculpture outside where there is walking access on both sides of it. This trail at the end of Heman Park is an underutilized section with a large amount of foot traffic due to its location at the Northwest entrance. The piece will be integrated into the site as it is constructed into the ground and framed by walking paths. Part of the impulse for this work is to fill that transitional space with something that can be approached from either side, seen daily while people are performing their habits and activities, and to return to what public sculpture means to me - inspiring curiosity to pull someone out of their head for a moment, no matter what direction they are going.



HEMAN PARK
UNIVERSITY CITY



BUDGET

Metal Constructions: \$294.00* approximation
16 gauge steel sheets...
4' x10' = \$147 x 2

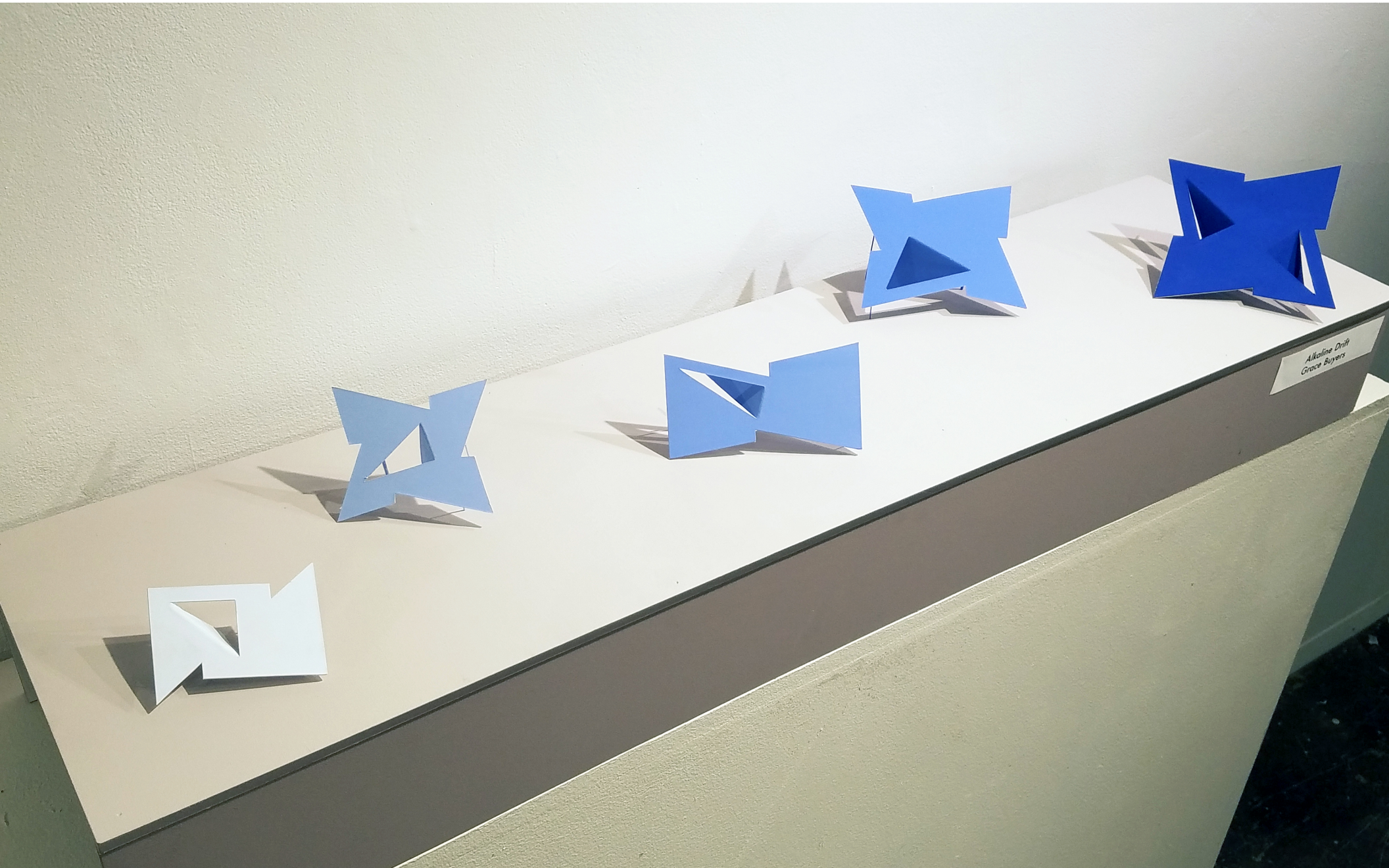
Steel for support: \$183.75
ERW pipe (2" diameter, 1/8" wall) = \$8.25/ft ...15 ft
1/4" rod = \$4.00 /ft ... 15 ft

Base/Feet: \$113.55
\$48.00 - SAKRETE 12 in. x 48 in. Tube for Concrete (\$16 x 3)
\$33.55 - Quikrete 50 lb. Fast-Setting Concrete Mix (\$6.71 x 5)'

Finishing/Paint: \$140.56
\$16.48 x 3 - Rust-Oleum Stops Rust 1 qt. Flat White Clean Metal Primer
\$16.48 x 2 - Rust-Oleum Stops Rust 1 qt. Protective Enamel Gloss White Interior/
Exterior Paint
\$16.48 x 2 - Rust-Oleum Stops Rust 1 qt. Protective Enamel Gloss COLOR Interior/
Exterior Paint
\$22.96 - Denatured alcohol to clean steel

Flap Disk x 3 = \$32.01
Painting tray = \$4.98
Oil Paint Rollers x 2 = \$21.96
Price of renting a truck = \$19.95 plus \$0.99/mile

Estimated total= \$810.81



Alkaline Drift
Grace Buyers

