



CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING BOARD

CAAPB

Capitol Mall Design Framework

Planting Strategies

Erik Cedarleaf Dahl, Executive Secretary CAAPB

Joe Favour, ASLA CAAPB Architectural Advisor Appointed by the Minnesota State Arts Board



CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING BOARD

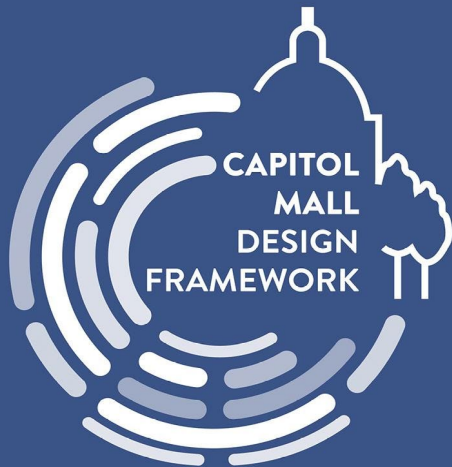
CAAPB

September 3rd Information

CAAPB & Capitol Area
2040 Comp Plan Vision
Capitol Area Principles
Legislation
Input from Minnesotans

Historic Role, Purpose & Design
Every Day and Big Days
21st Century Capitol District
Capitol Mall Design Framework
> Eight Bold Moves

Today: CMDF Planting Strategies



THE CAPITOL AREA IS **MORE WELCOMING FOR MORE MINNESOTANS**. THE DESIGN FRAMEWORK LAYS OUT A MULTI-PHASE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY AND A SERIES OF DESIGN GUIDELINE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE USED AS A DECISION MAKING TOOL MOVING FORWARD.

www.MN.GOV/CAAPB



**Approved
2025**

Figure 149: Capitol Mall Design Framework

EIGHT BOLD DESIGN MOVES DESIGN FRAMEWORK CAPITOL AREA

Enhance
Experience

Reinvigorate
Nodes

Right-Size
the Streets

Sculpt
Topography

Public
Space
Strategies

Celebrate
Water

Planting
Strategies

Cass Gilbert
Memorial
Park

Today's Overview



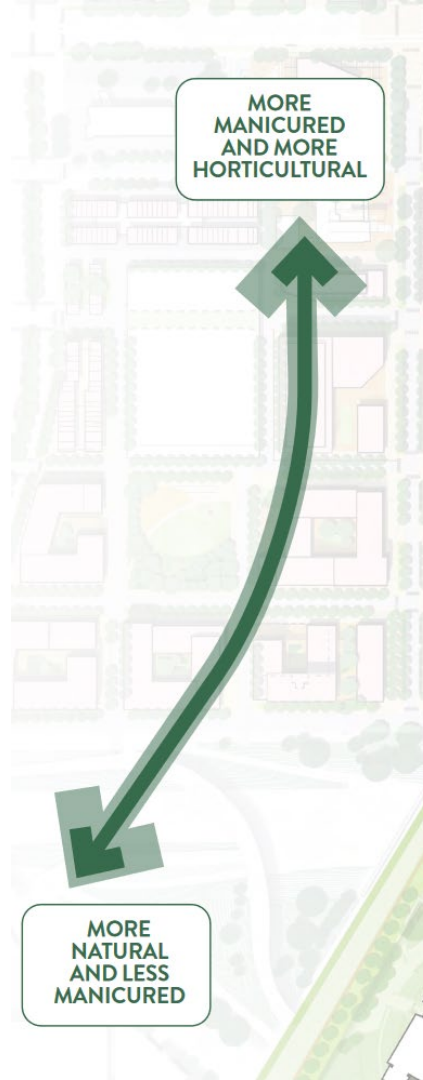
PLANTING STRATEGIES

Bold Move #7

PLANTING STRATEGIES

CREATE A GRADIENT OF PLANTING STRATEGIES

SUPPORTING CULTURAL
PROGRAMMING, SUSTAINABLE
MAINTENANCE AND HUMAN
COMFORT GOALS



**MORE
MANICURED
AND MORE
HORTICULTURAL**

**402
PROPOSED
MALL TREES**

THE GREEN FRAME

CIVIC PLINTH

OPEN GLADES

CULTURAL PLANTING

WOODLANDS, MEADOWS, AND PRAIRIES

**MORE
NATURAL
AND LESS
MANICURED**

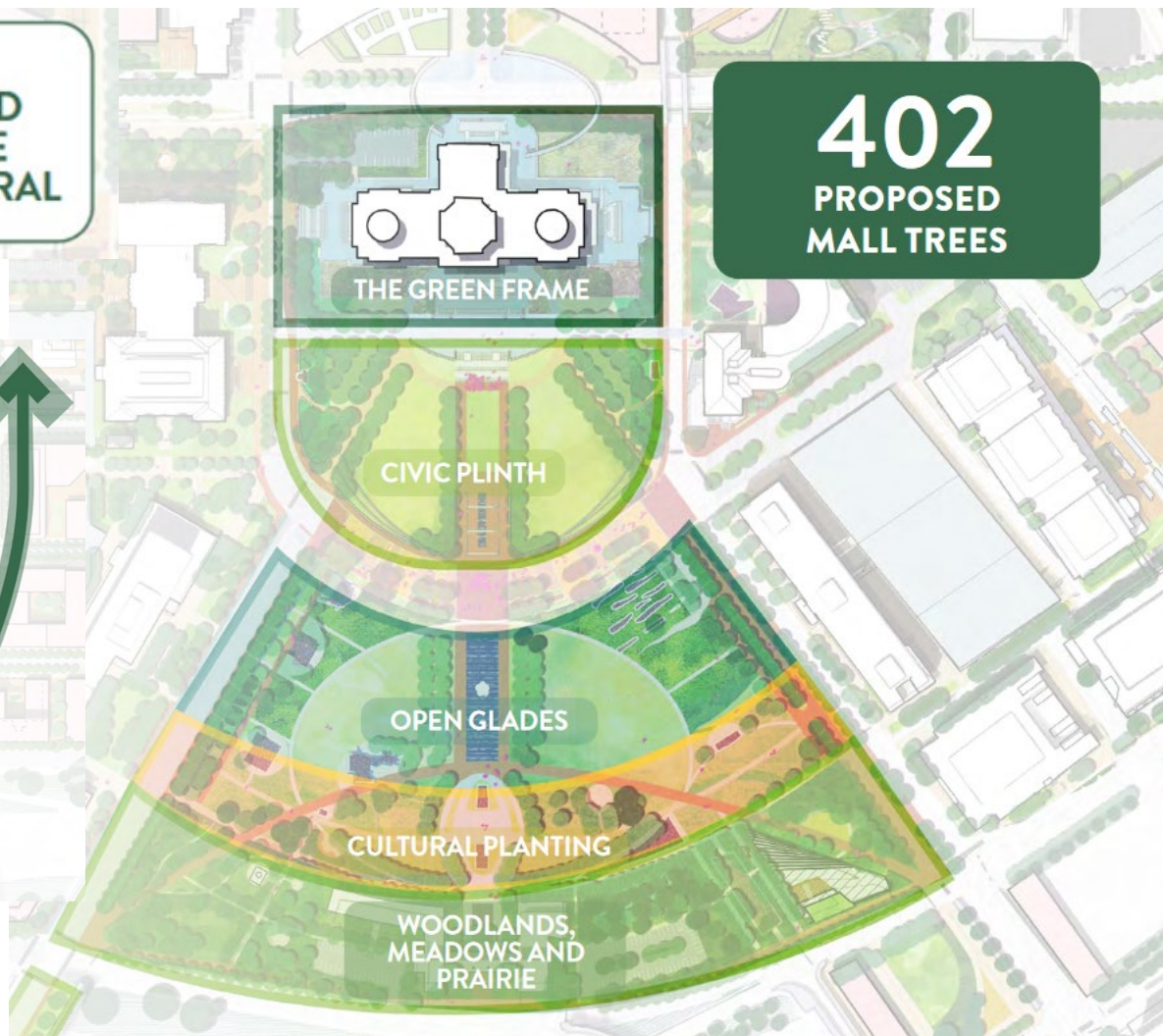
THE GREEN FRAME

CIVIC PLINTH

OPEN GLADES

CULTURAL PLANTING

WOODLANDS,
MEADOWS AND
PRAIRIE



THE GREEN FRAME



Figure 163: Wisconsin State Capitol

Source: Klassy, Todd. *Wisconsin State Capitol*. Fine Art America, [fineartamerica.com/featured/capitol-tulips-todd-klassy.html?product=greeting-card](https://www.fineartamerica.com/featured/capitol-tulips-todd-klassy.html?product=greeting-card). Accessed Apr. 2024.



Figure 166: US Capitol Green Frame

Source: *US Capitol*. The Daily Signal, <https://www.dailysignal.com/2018/09/13/if-congress-cant-pass-a-conservative-farm-bill-they-should-extend-existing-law/>

THE GREEN FRAME

Mall Context



THE GREEN FRAME





Northrop Mall U of MN

Image: <https://www.tclf.org/northrop-mall-university-minnesota>

CIVIC PLINTH



Figure 164: US Capitol

Source: Sasaki. *Lawn*. Sasaki, www.sasaki.com/projects/u-s-capitol-visitor-center/.



Figure 165: Texas State Capitol

Source: G. Lyon Photography, Inc. *Texas Capitol Mall*.
Coleman Associates, www.colemanandassoc.com/projects/texas-capitol-complex-mall-and-garage.

CIVIC PLINTH

Mall Context



CIVIC PLINTH





Lake Harriet Bandshell

Image: <https://schedule2026.com/lake-harriet-bandshell-schedule-2026/>

OPEN GLADES



Figure 167: Cantigny Park, Wheaton, IL

Source: Sasaki. *Cantigny Park*. Sasaki, www.sasaki.com/voices-engineering-news-record-honors-cantigny-park-as-it-moves-into-next-phase/.

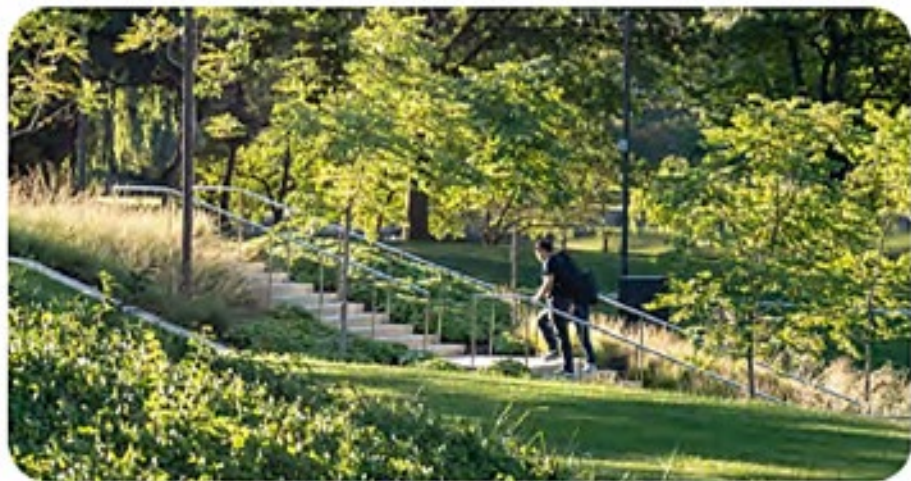


Figure 168: Nord Family Greenway, Cleveland, OH

Source: *Nord Family Greenway*. Cultural Landscape Foundation, www.tclf.org/

OPEN GLADES

Mall Context



OPEN GLADES



OPEN GLADES

Mall Context



OPEN GLADES





**Minnehaha Falls Refectory and Surrounding
Grove/Lawns**

Image: <https://millerdunwiddie.com/projects/the-refectory-building-at-minnehaha-falls/>

CULTURAL PLANTING



Figure 172: Cantigny Park and Landscape, Wheaton, IL

Source: Sasaki. *Cantigny Park and Landscape*. Sasaki, www.sasaki.com/projects/cantigny-park-garden-and-landscape-improvements/.



Figure 171: Dakota Ethnobotany

Source: UMN. *Dakota Ethnobotany*. UMN Extension, extension.umn.edu/find-plants/native-plants.

CULTURAL PLANTING

Mall Context

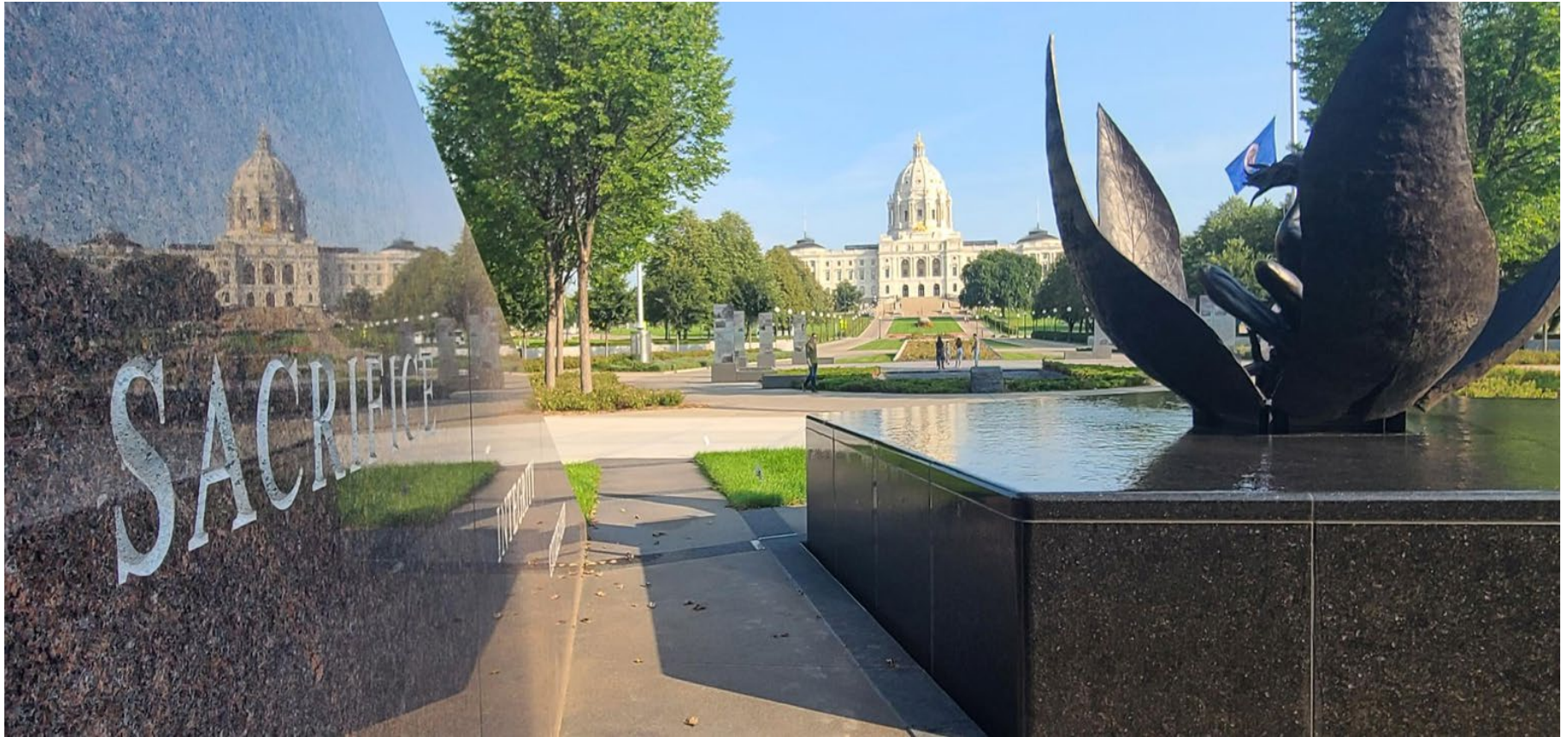


CULTURAL PLANTING



CULTURAL PLANTING

Mall Context



CULTURAL PLANTING

Minnesota Precedent



Minneapolis Sculpture Garden

Image: <https://www.minneapolisarks.org/news/2024/03/15/proposals-sought-for-new-food-beverage-and-programming-operator-at-minneapolis-sculpture-garden/>

WOODLANDS, MEADOWS, AND PRAIRIES



Figure 169: US Capitol

Source: Sasaki. *Lawn*. Sasaki, www.sasaki.com/projects/u-s-capitol-visitor-center/.



Figure 170: Monk's Garden, Boston, MA

Source: Sasaki. *Lawn*. Sasaki, www.sasaki.com/projects/u-s-capitol-visitor-center/.

WOODLANDS, MEADOWS, AND PRAIRIES



WOODLANDS,
MEADOWS, AND
PRAIRIES



Mall Context

WOODLANDS, MEADOWS, AND PRAIRIES

Minnesota Precedent



Silverwood Park, St. Anthony

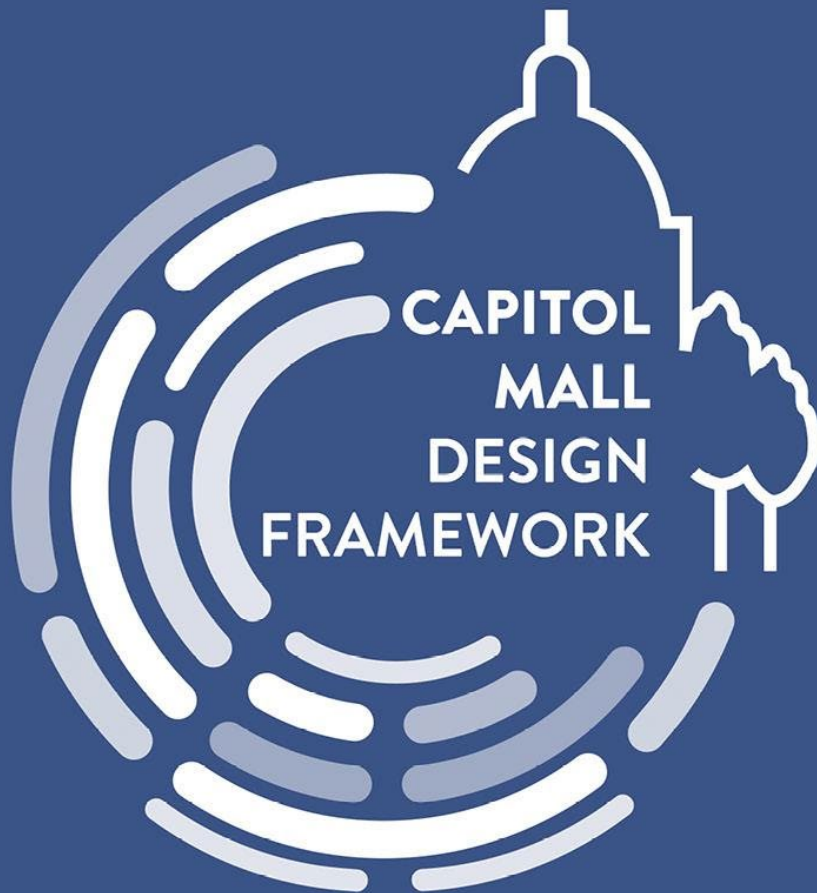
Image: <https://www.threeriversparks.org/location/silverwood-park/>

State Park Example: Gooseberry Falls



Change is density of trees and ground plane treatment





Thank you!

Erik Cedarleaf Dahl

Executive Secretary

Capitol Area Architectural and
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