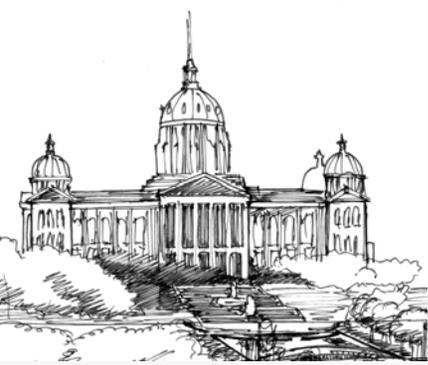
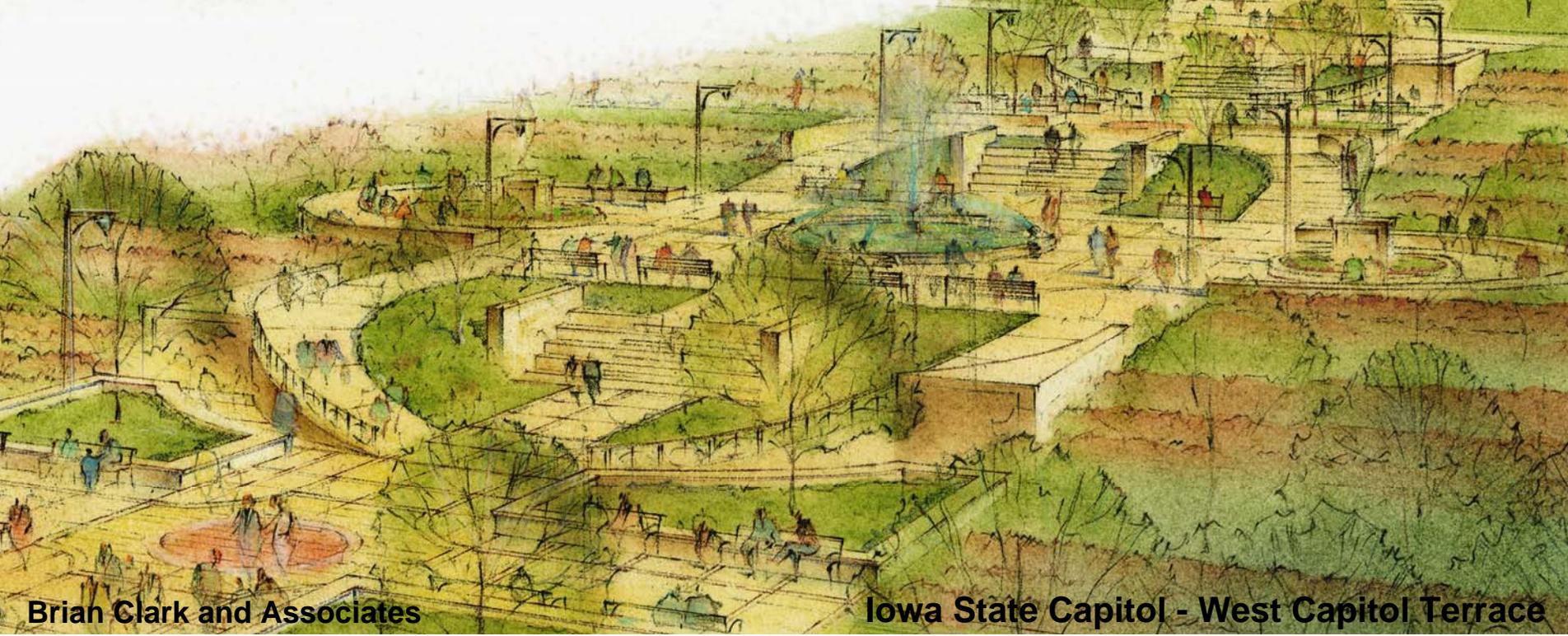


# Iowa State Capitol: West Terrace Improvements



"The West Capitol Terrace project has been in the planning stages for many years. The landscape architects involved with the project developed a thorough public process to gather input from everyone involved. They have done an excellent job of incorporating and formulating all of the ideas into a design that will enhance the Capitol grounds both aesthetically and ecologically. The citizens of Iowa and our visitors look forward to this design becoming a reality, marking the culmination of what will be a momentous alteration to the Capitol's front door."

- former Governor Tom Vilsack



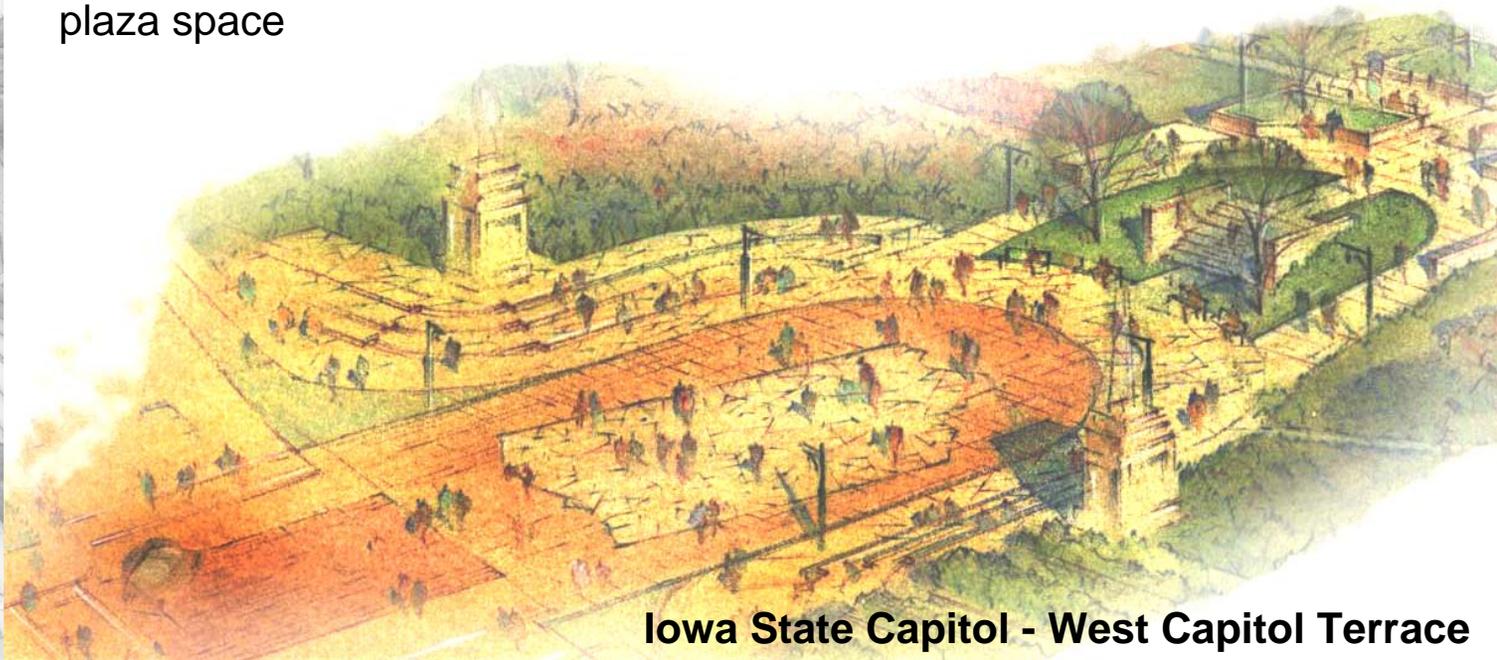
# Pre-existing Conditions: "What it was"



- Large, under-utilized parking lot
- No setting for such grand architecture
- Disjointed connection to the East Village
- Visitor experience lacking
- No "good" photo opportunity!

## *Goals and Objectives:*

- Give the Capitol the setting it deserves
- Create a 'People's Park' for both events and everyday use
- Restore the walk-ability of the Capitol Complex
- Connect the Capitol both physically and visually to the City of Des Moines
- Create a visitor experience with a lasting impression
- Eliminate the parking lots and replace with an environmentally friendly plaza space



**Iowa State Capitol - West Capitol Terrace**

# *Collaboration:*

- State of Iowa
  - Support and Maintenance Staff (Department of Administrative Services)
  - State Legislature
- City of Des Moines
- East Village Business District
- Department of Natural Resources
- MidAmerican Energy
- Hy-Vee Corporate Headquarters – 2007 Triathlon
- Des Moines Symphony – Yankee Doodle Pops
- Des Moines Bike Club

# The Final Plan: "What it will be!"

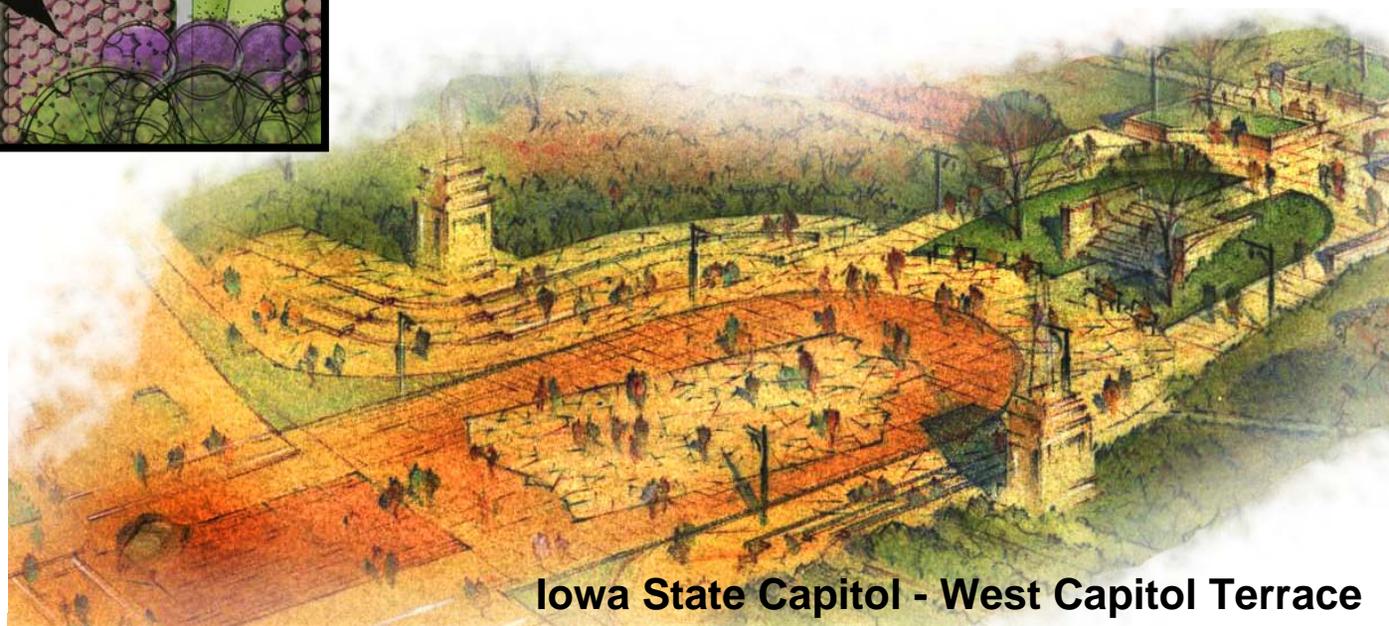


Iowa State Capitol - West Capitol Terrace

# The People's Plaza:

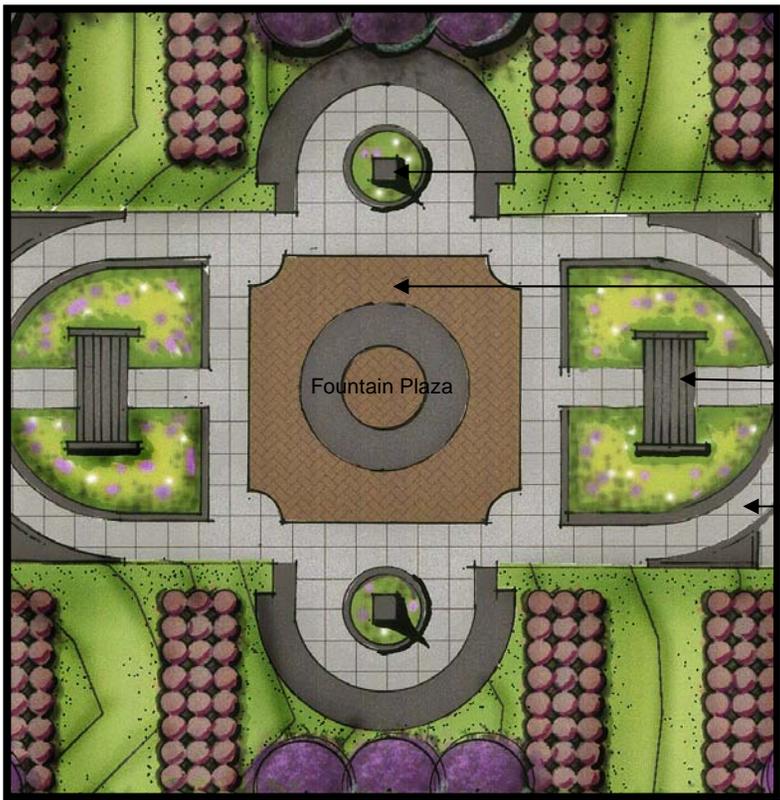


- Granite County Map (200' x 60')
  - Culmination of East Locust's county pavers
  - All Counties and names are single slabs
- Amphitheater space
- Welcome space to all visitors
- Great photo opportunity – framed view of the Capitol
- Community connection – Event space



Iowa State Capitol - West Capitol Terrace

# Central Plaza / Fountain:



Flagpole / Monument

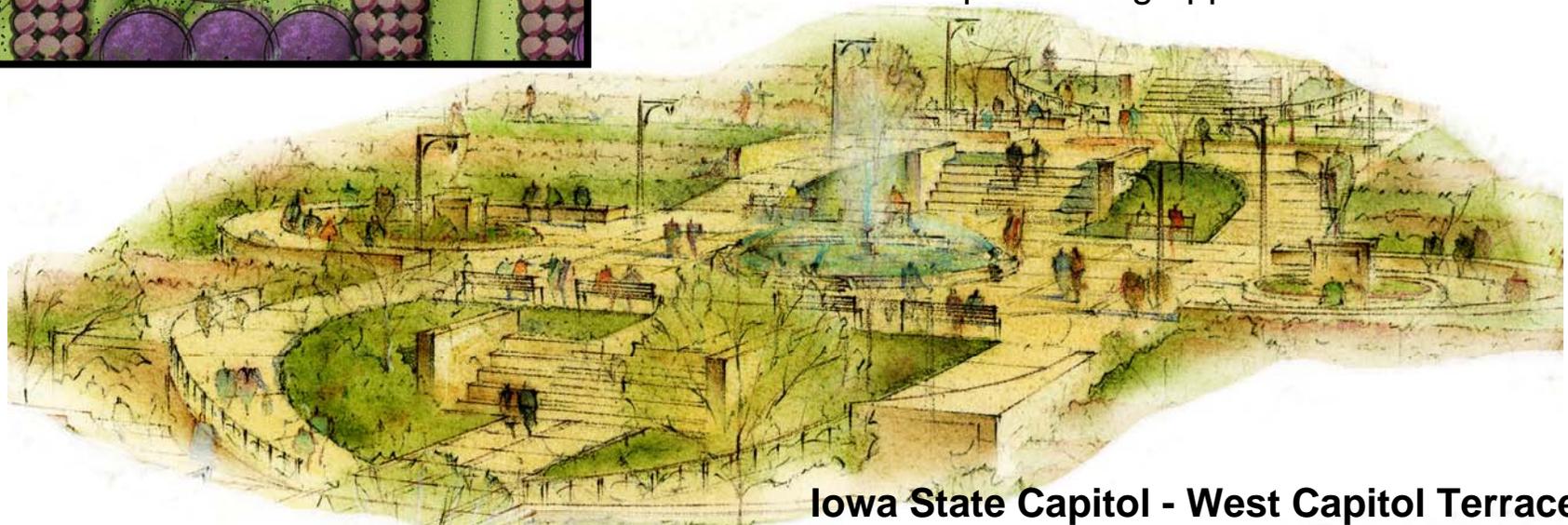
Fountain / Plaza Space

Grand Staircase  
(seating on sides)

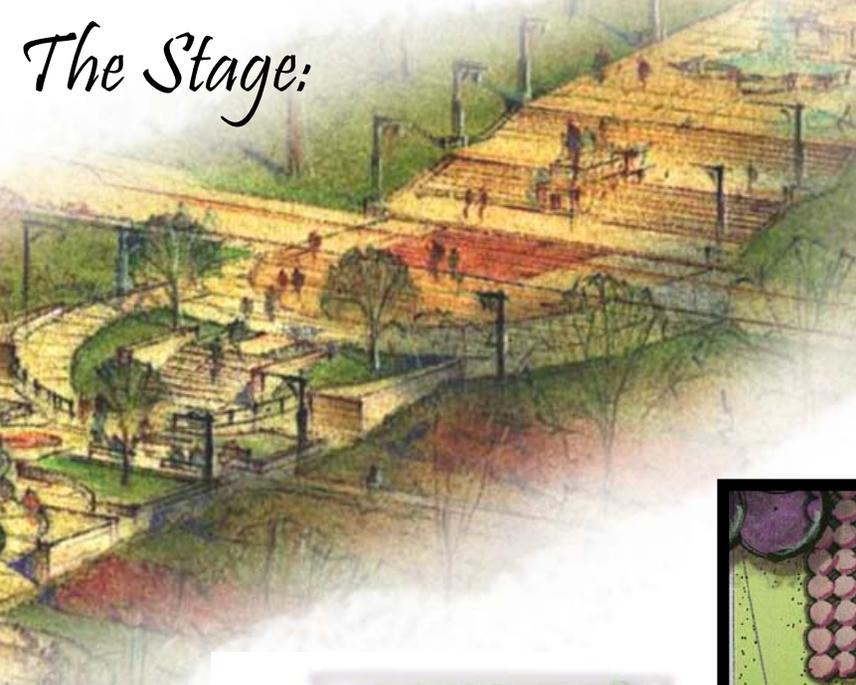
Ramp



- Stately fountain feature
- Lounging area – Meeting spot
- Flanking flagpoles or monuments
- Multiple seating opportunities

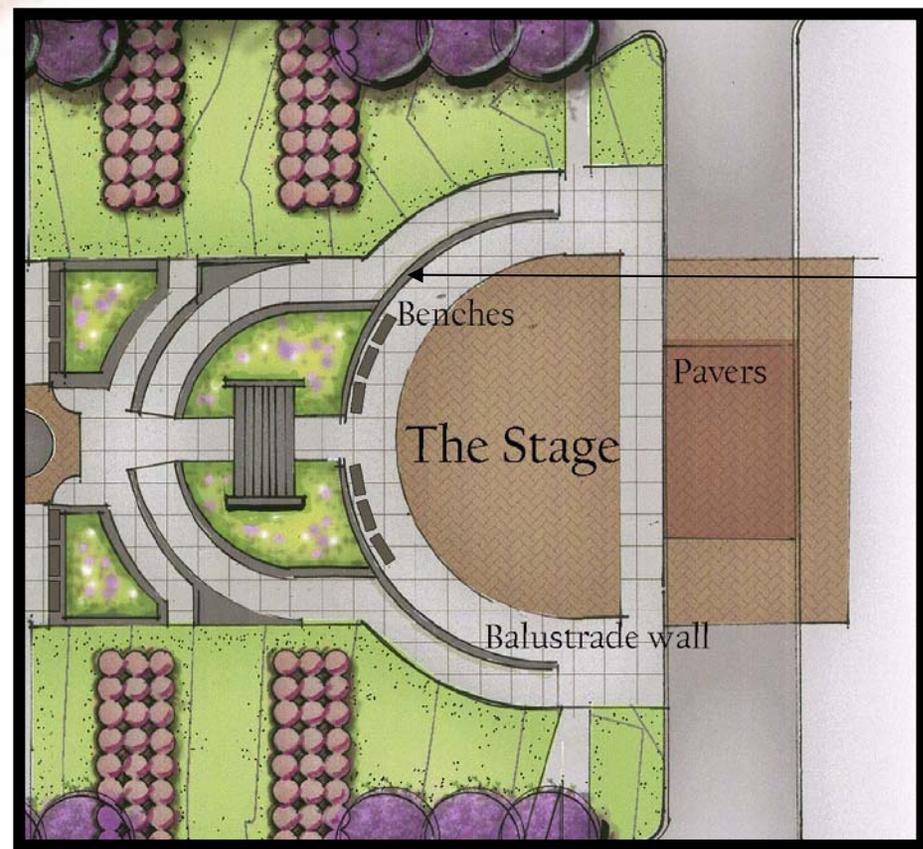


Iowa State Capitol - West Capitol Terrace

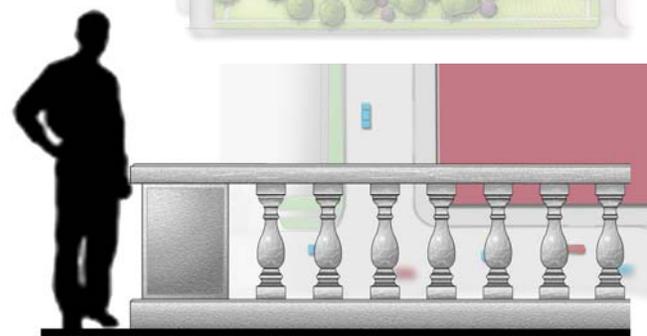


# The Stage:

- Events Space
  - Yankee Doodle Pops (100,000 people)
  - Hy-Vee Triathlon Finish Line
- Public demonstration space
- News media broadcasting location



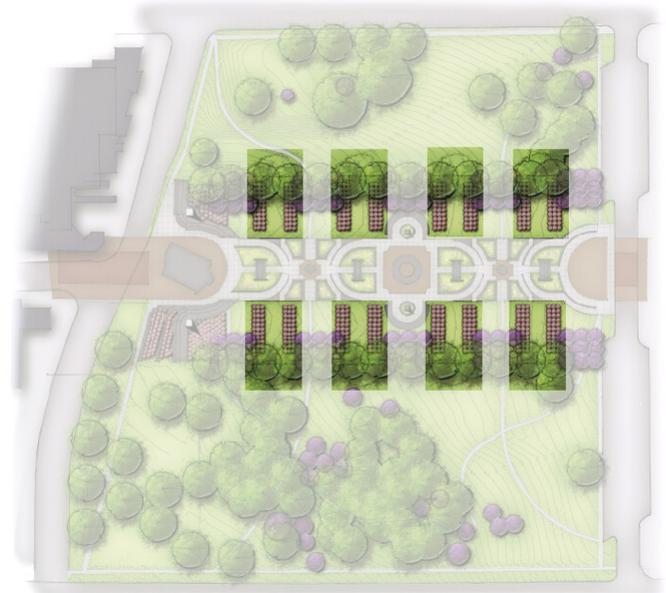
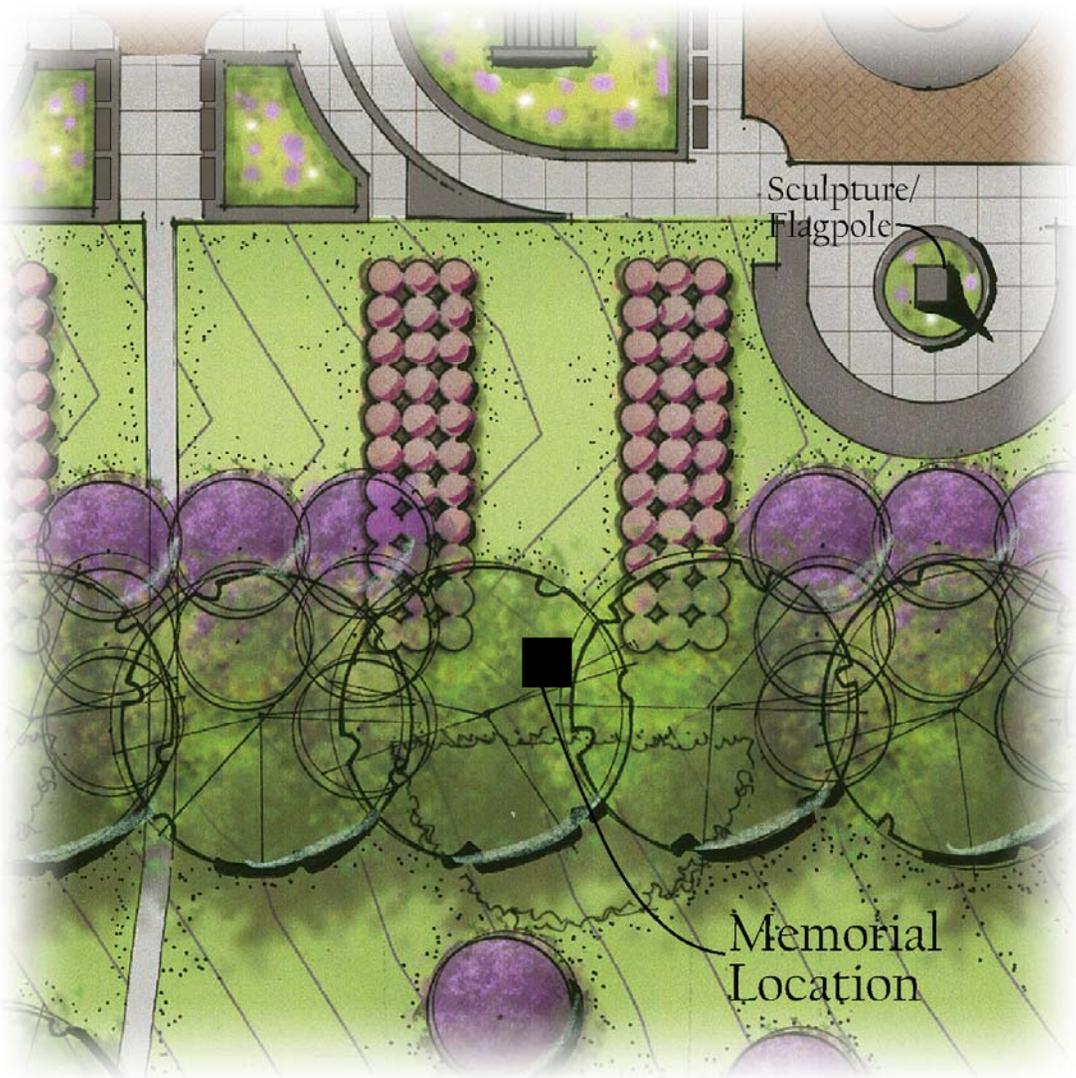
Balustrade Wall (both sides)



Granite Balustrade

## Iowa State Capitol - West Capitol Terrace

# Memorial Plans:



- Terraced areas
- Easily accessible
- Prominent, not dominant
- 8 Locations
- Flexible space for event seating

# Materials:



Plant Selection



Platinum Gray



Chardonnay Tan



Mocha Brown



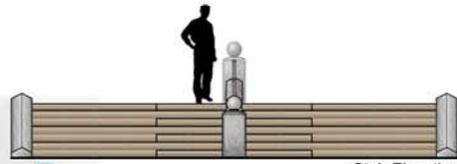
Everlast Granite



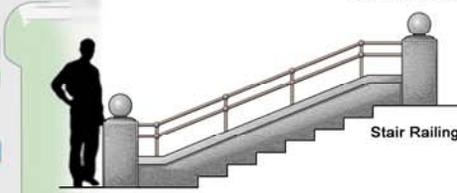
Planter



Granite Balustrade



Stair Elevation



Stair Railing



Light Fixture

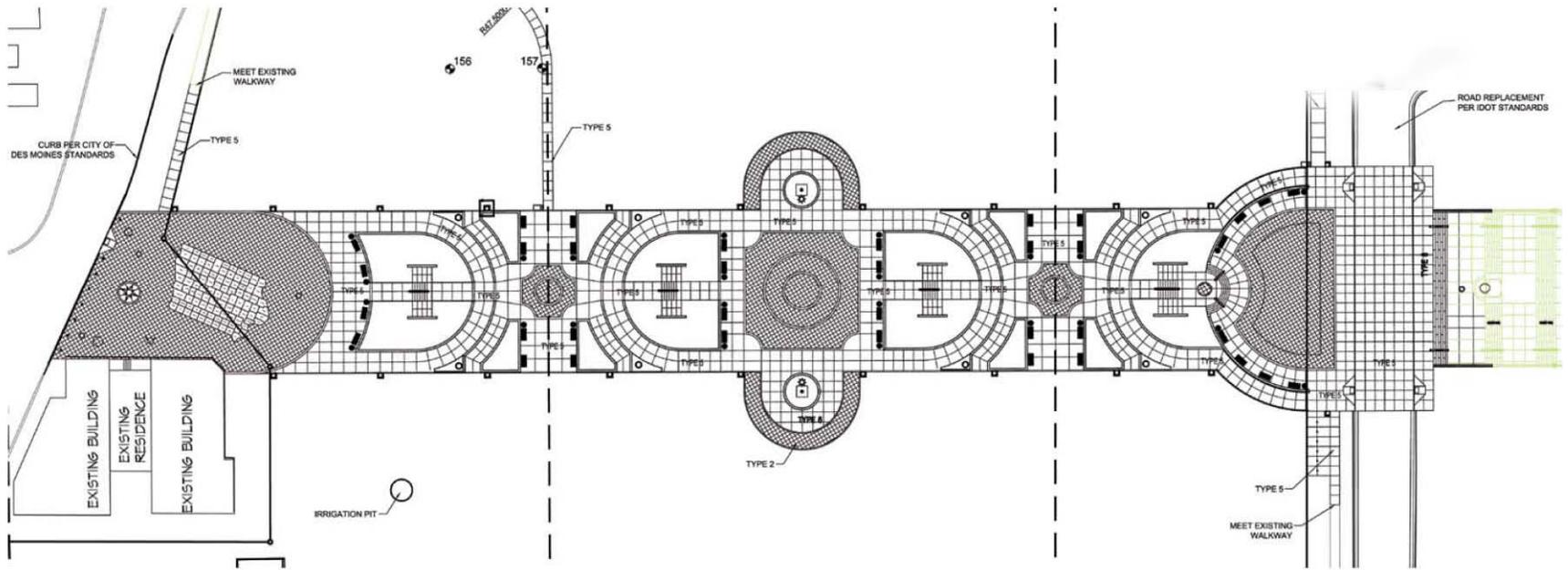


Dumor Bench



Trash Receptacle

# Benches/Receptacles:



**Type #1 Benches**

**Quantity - 24**



**Type #2 Benches**

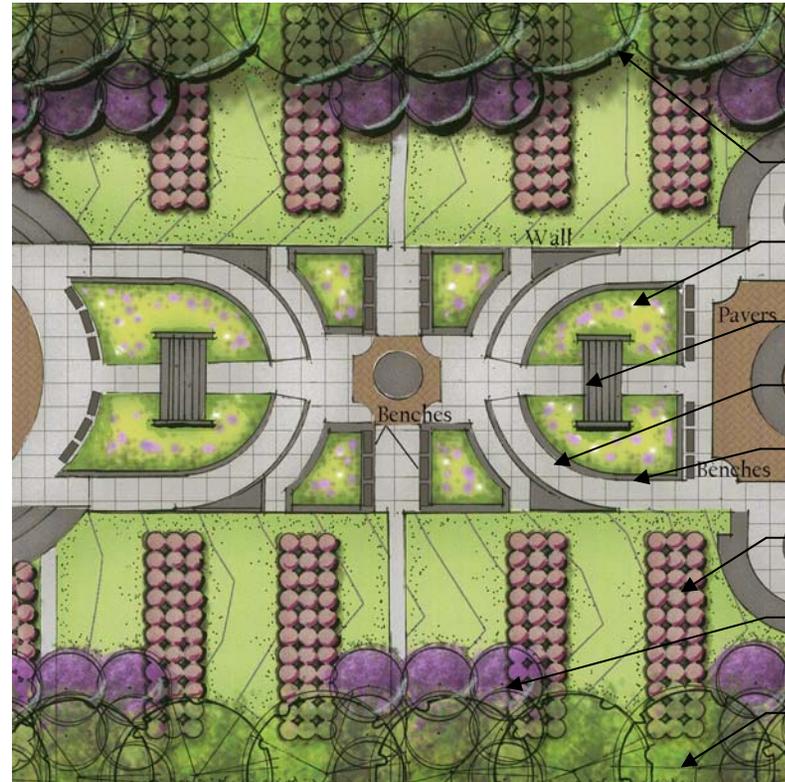
**Quantity - 18**



**Receptacle**

**Quantity - 24**

# Native Plants / Greenspace:



Memorial Space  
(Terraced)

Native Plantings  
(Rain Gardens)

Grand Staircase

Ramp

Raised Granite Curb  
(Typical)

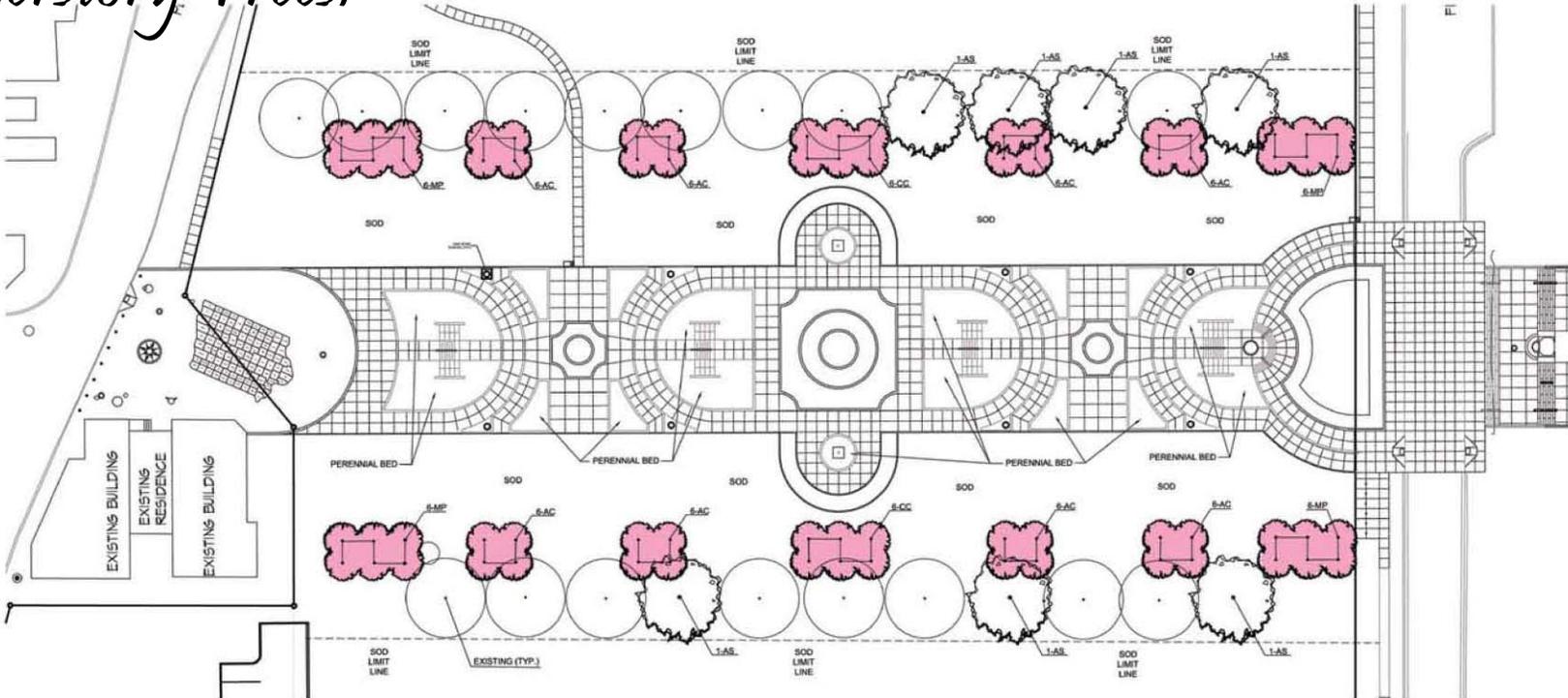
Native Shrubs  
(Placed on Slopes)

Ornamental Tree

Native Oak Trees

- Native plants
- Low-maintenance
- Learning opportunity for lowans
- Return of public greenspace
- Rain Garden spaces

# Understory Trees:



**Redbud Tree**



**Crabapple**



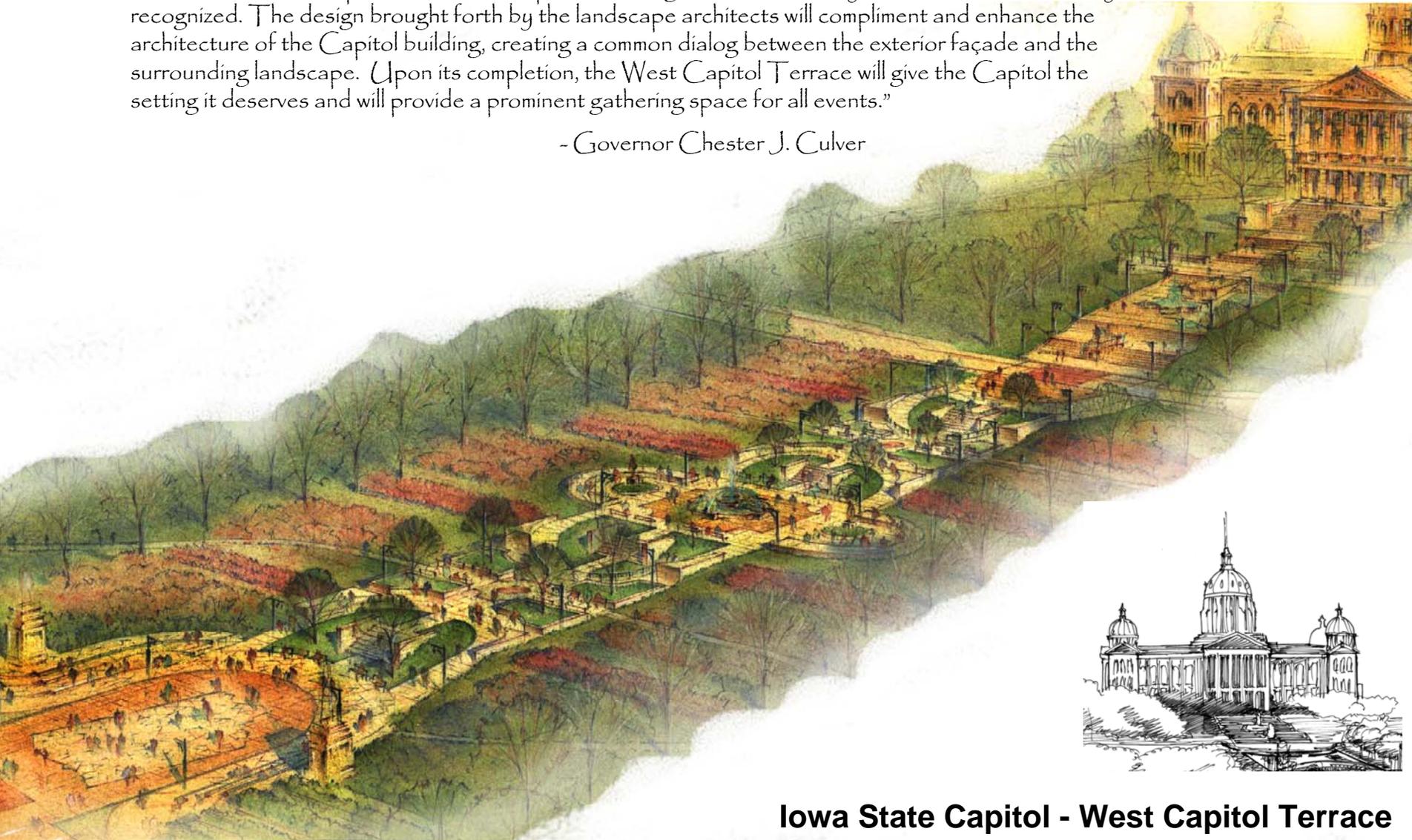
**Serviceberry**



# *Iowa State Capitol: West Terrace Improvements*

“The Iowa State Capitol is a wonderful public building with extraordinary architecture that is widely recognized. The design brought forth by the landscape architects will compliment and enhance the architecture of the Capitol building, creating a common dialog between the exterior façade and the surrounding landscape. Upon its completion, the West Capitol Terrace will give the Capitol the setting it deserves and will provide a prominent gathering space for all events.”

- Governor Chester J. Culver



**Iowa State Capitol - West Capitol Terrace**