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KEEP MONTGOMERY COUNTY BEAUTIFUL
2008-2009
COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION GRANT APPLICATION

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION:

ORGANIZATION CHAIR &
PROJECT DIRECTOR:

CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO SPOI ILL
NEED THE FOLLOWING:
ASSOCIATION FEDERAL TAXPAYER ID OR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER # (If check is payable to the association list a Taxpayer ID No.; If check is payable to an individual representing the association list a SSN):

PROJECT TO BE INITIATED: Fall 2008 ___ Spring 2009 _X_

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT *(Including level of direct community involvement)*:

Overview
The Hillwood Manor Neighborhood Association Garden Committee has received permission from MNCPPC and the City of Takoma Park to develop gardens in two areas. The first, a gateway garden, is at and near the corner of Erskine Street and New Hampshire Avenue; the second is at the grassy area surrounding the hiker-biker trail on New Hampshire Avenue, before the trail goes over the bridge into Hillwood Manor. Our project is part of a city-wide effort to launch a community-driven gardening initiative and the beautification of New Hampshire Avenue/Langley Park area.

The Garden Committee's planning and design team consists of the 13 members of the neighborhood who have met over the past year to develop a multi-phase plan for these two areas. We identified multiple goals for the project: to **increase community interaction** by inviting community members to join us in our gardening days and including them in public art projects; to **address environmental concerns** by adding trees, educating the community on environmentally-friendly gardening and landscaping , removing invasive plants and grass, increasing animal habitat, showcasing native plants, and creating a retaining wall to prevent soil erosion and minimize ground water run-off into Sligo Creek; to **increase safety** by removing tall shrubs and invasive vines that obscure views for pedestrians on sidewalks and drivers at the street corner; and to **beautify the area** by adding more diverse and four-season plantings, incorporating public artwork, providing trashcans, and providing elegant gardens that celebrate a sense of place and make bus stops more attractive waiting areas.

We are requesting KMCB funds for **four beds** that are part of a comprehensive garden project. Additional components of the entire plan include: a gateway garden with retaining wall (needed to prevent on-going soil erosion on the steep hill along Erskine Ave and NH); repair of unsafe asphalt areas near the Hiker/Biker trail walkway; increased signage for the neighborhood; new trees; public art; and a permanent source of water.

Community Involvement
The Hillwood Manor Neighborhood Gardening Association project already has **extensive community involvement.** We are especially pleased that two of the neighborhood's pre-teen girls were active during the design phase and when we approached the city of Takoma Park for funds, they created a diorama and presented it to the City Manager. In addition to our 13-member design team, we convened a **work crew** of **17 volunteers** last fall to clear the brush from the Erskine and New Hampshire corner. Each person worked approximately 2.5 hours and together we filled a large Public Works dump truck with organic waste. We also filled several garbage bags with recyclable materials and trash. At the spring 2008 Friends of Sligo Creek clean up, we tapped **48 volunteers** and **14** of them indicated they were willing to serve on future garden construction and maintenance work crews. We expect a large turn-out to help with the Spring clean up and garden construction.

Planting for which we request KMCB Program funds:
We request funding for **4 planting beds** in the grassy area of New Hampshire Avenue. This is located just south of the Sligo Creek Pkwy/ NH Avenue intersection, where the Sligo Creek hiker/biker trail enters the Hillwood Manor neighborhood. (See Appendix 4 for map and planting designs.)

Bed 1: Butterfly and hummingbird native plant garden. The curve of this oval bed (approximately 20' long and 10' wide) will parallel the creek bank on the north side of the hiker/biker trail. We will plant the bed according to advice from Brookside Gardens and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping – Chesapeake Bay Watershed") as to the appropriate native plants to attract hummingbirds and butterflies. We will need to purchase organic compost; leaf mulch will be provided by the City of Takoma Park. **Total cost of plant materials, river stone and compost for this bed: $537.**

Bed 2: Bus stop bed. This bed will be located by the bus stop in the grassy area. It will incorporate an ornamental tree (a redbud) which the team planted in December. (Funds for the tree were provided by the City of Takoma Park.) Near the tree, MNCPPC recently installed a Sligo Creek sign which contains a bike trail map on one side. We will connect the sign, tree and bus stop into a harmonious unit by creating the flower bed which will be comprised of perennials and shrubs. We will need to purchase organic compost; leaf mulch will be provided by the City of Takoma Park. **Total cost of plant materials and compost for this bed: $ 378.**

Bed 3: Redbud grove. MNCPPC is assisting the HMNA gardening committee by planting a small grove of ornamental redbuds to the south of the hiker/biker trail, removing the grass and making the area underneath the trees into a mulched bed. Upon recommendation from their chief landscape manager who is working directly with our committee, we would like to underplant with a mix of naturalizing daffodils. MNCPPC will supply mulch. **Total cost of plant materials: $89.**

Bed 4: Winterberry hedge. MNCPPC has cleared out invasive vines and old scrub next to the right flank of the bridge. This is the area which will serve as the boundary for the Redbud grove. We would like to plant a shrub hedge there to serve as a screen, provide definition for the trees and prevent regrowth of invasives. Winterberry has high wildlife value and would help provide winter interest in the garden. Mulch supplied by City of Takoma Park or MNCPPC. **Total cost of shrubs and compost: $103.**

TOTAL PROJECT COST: $1107

We are committed to **environmentally- friendly gardening techniques**. Our project is meant as an education garden, focused on green, sustainable features. As some of our area is on MNCPPC land, we have a commitment from them not to do any spraying or chemical applications in this area. We see this as a test case that may convince MNCPPC to go organic in other parks as well.

SPECIFIC LOCATION OF PROJECT: (Attach map sketch): See Appendix 4.

COST OF PROJECT:

1.	Labor - (Volunteer) Hours x $6.55 per hour: (*Not to exceed 20% of #2, # 3, # 4 costs*)	**216**
2.	Materials:	**1107**
3.	Equipment rental:	**0**
4.	Miscellaneous:	**0**
TOTAL PROJECT COST:		**1,323**

Volunteers supply the gardening tools needed.

ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE for this phase: **June 30, 2009 (except bulb planting, which would be in the fall.)**

I have read, understood, and will abide by the guidelines of this application.

SIGNATURE OF PRESIDENT:

RETURN THE APPLICATION TO: Keep Montgomery County Beautiful, Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Director's Office, 101 Monroe Street, 10th Floor, Rockville, MD 20850.

How did you hear about this grant? The community developer from the City of Takoma Park with whom we are working on this project suggested we apply.

Appendix 1: ITEMIZED LIST OF COSTS AND ANY NECESSARY PERMITS SUCH AS BUILDING, SEDIMENT, APPROVAL OF PROPERTY OWNERS, ETC.

Attached is the email from MNCPPC confirming their approval for this project, and the first page of the grant agreement from the City of Takoma Park covering plant materials for the Erskine garden and the cost of up to 5 trees.

Costs for Plant Materials

HMNA BUTTERFLY AND HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN

Shrubs

S1 *Buddleia davidii* – Butterfly bush	1 @ $35 = $35
S2 *Lindera benzoin* – Spicebush	1 @ $20 = $20
S3 *Syringa sp.* – Lilac	1 @ $35 = $35

Perennials

P1 *Aguilegia Canadensis* – Eastern or wild columbine	3 @ $8 = $24
P2 *Asclepias incamata* – swamp milkweed	2 @ $10 = $20
P3 *Asclepias tuberose* – butterfly weed	3 @ $12 = $36
P4 *Asters* – smooth blue, New England or New York	3 @ $9 = $27
P5 *Chelone globara* – white turtlehead	3 @ $11 = $33
P6 *Cimicifuga recemosa*- Black snakeroot	1 @ $15 = $15
P7 *Lobelia cardinalis* – cardinal flower	3 @ $9 = $27
P8 *Lobelia siphilitica* – great blue lobelia	3 @ $9 = $27
P9 *Monarda braburiana* – wild bergamot, horsemint	3 @ $10 = $30
P10 *Monarda didyma* – bee balm	3 @ $10 = $30
P11 *Rudbeckia fulgida or hirta* – coneflower	1 @ $13 = $13
P12 *Verbena sp.*, --	1 @ $10 = $10
P13 *Vernesina altemfolia or novebonacensis* – wingstem or yellow ironweed ; NY Ironweed	3 @ $10 = $30
P14 *Violas* --	5 @ $9 = $45

Bus Stop Garden

S4 Chamaecyparis pisifera --Threadleaf cypress	1 @ $40 = $40
G1 *Panicum varigatum* – Switchgrass	3 @ $12= $48
S2 *Hydrangea macrophylla* - Hydrangea	3 @$28 = $84
S3 *Cornus Sercia*- Red osier Dogwood	3 @ $25 = $75
P15 *Lavendula angustifolia* - Lavender	3 @ $12 = $36
P16 *Hakonechloa "aureola"*	3 @ $17 = $51

Redbud grove

100 bulbs – mixed daffodils for naturalizing $89

Winterberry Hedge

6 – Ilex virticillata (3 males and 3 females) [special sale price] $95

Compost

35 – bags of compost @ 3.49 $122

1 bag – River stone $ 10

TOTAL MATERIALS COST: **$1, 107**

Appendix 2: COMMUNITY PLAN FOR CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF PROJECT.

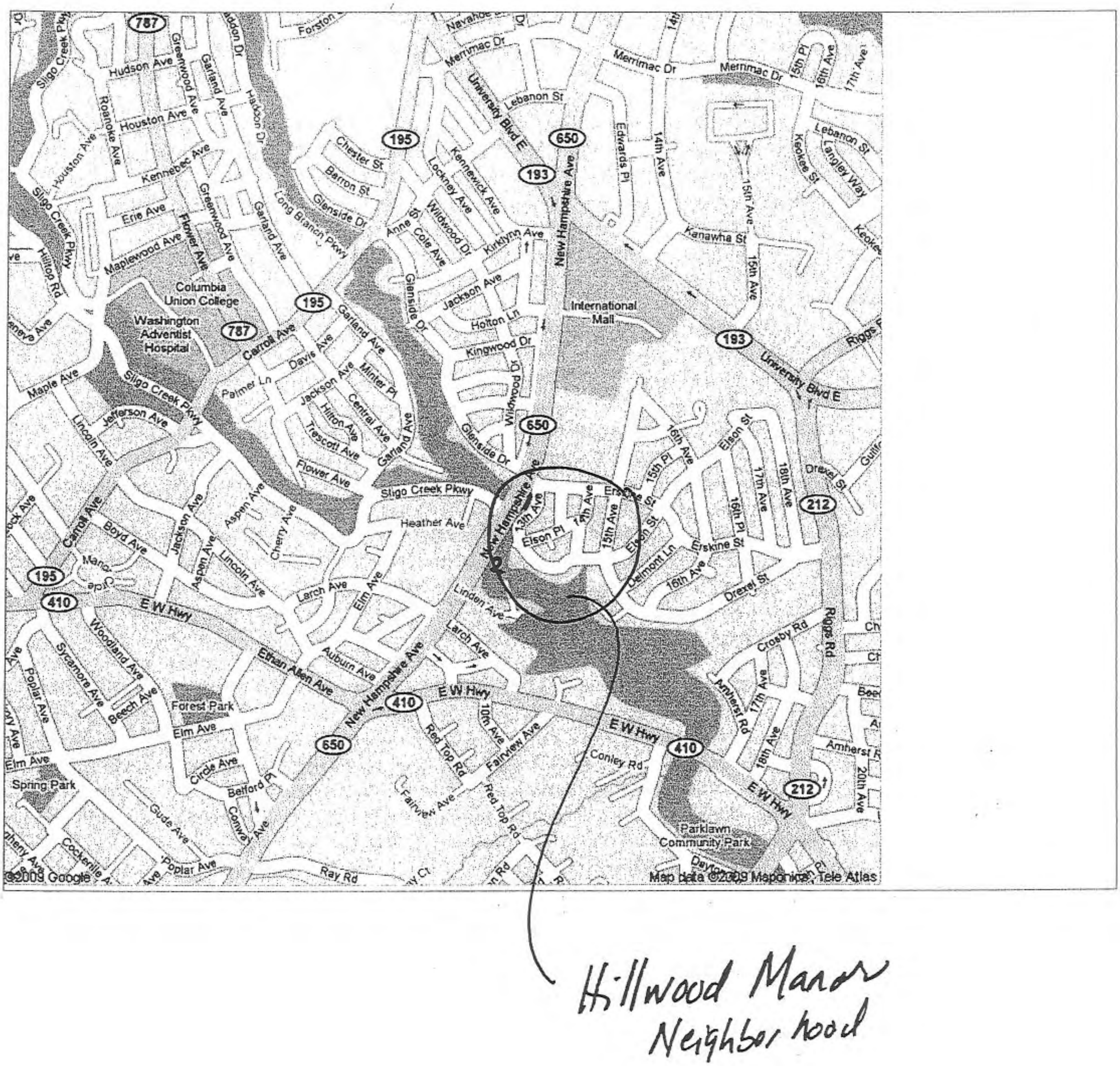
We are designing the garden with xeriscape planting and other low maintenance principles in mind to reduce the amount of watering needed -- which we anticipate will be one of the major ongoing responsibilities of the volunteers. At this point we have decided that planning team members will take turns organizing and leading monthly weeding, trash collection, and maintenance sessions. The month's crew leader will also be responsible for monitoring watering needs during that month.

Appendix 4: MAP of AREA and BED DESIGNS.

Maps http://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=38.982164,-76.991673&spn=

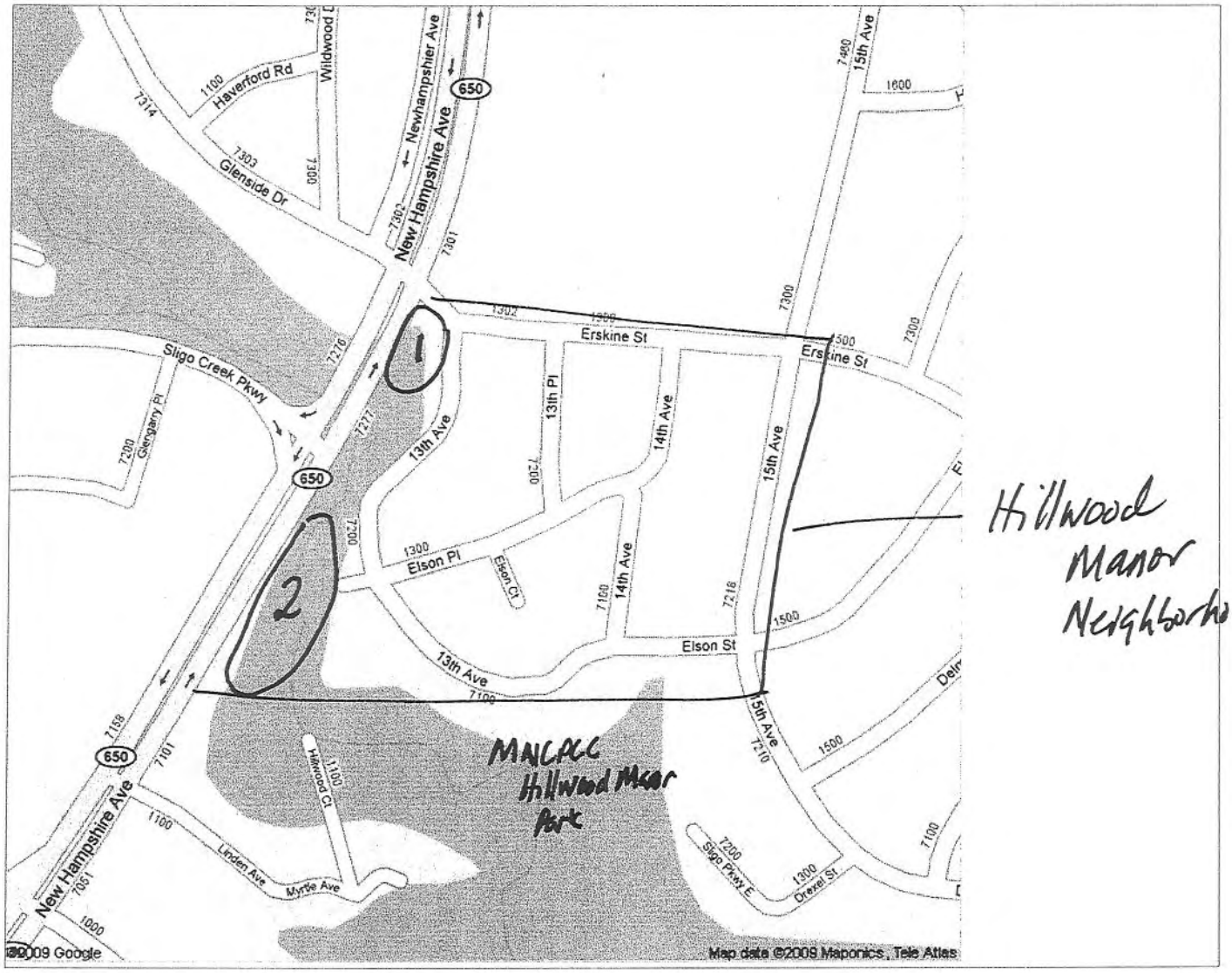
Google Maps

Notes Location for Hillwood Manor Association Garden Committee Beautification Projects. Area 1 is the location for our Gateway Garden project; Area 2 is the grassy area where we propose 4 plant beds.

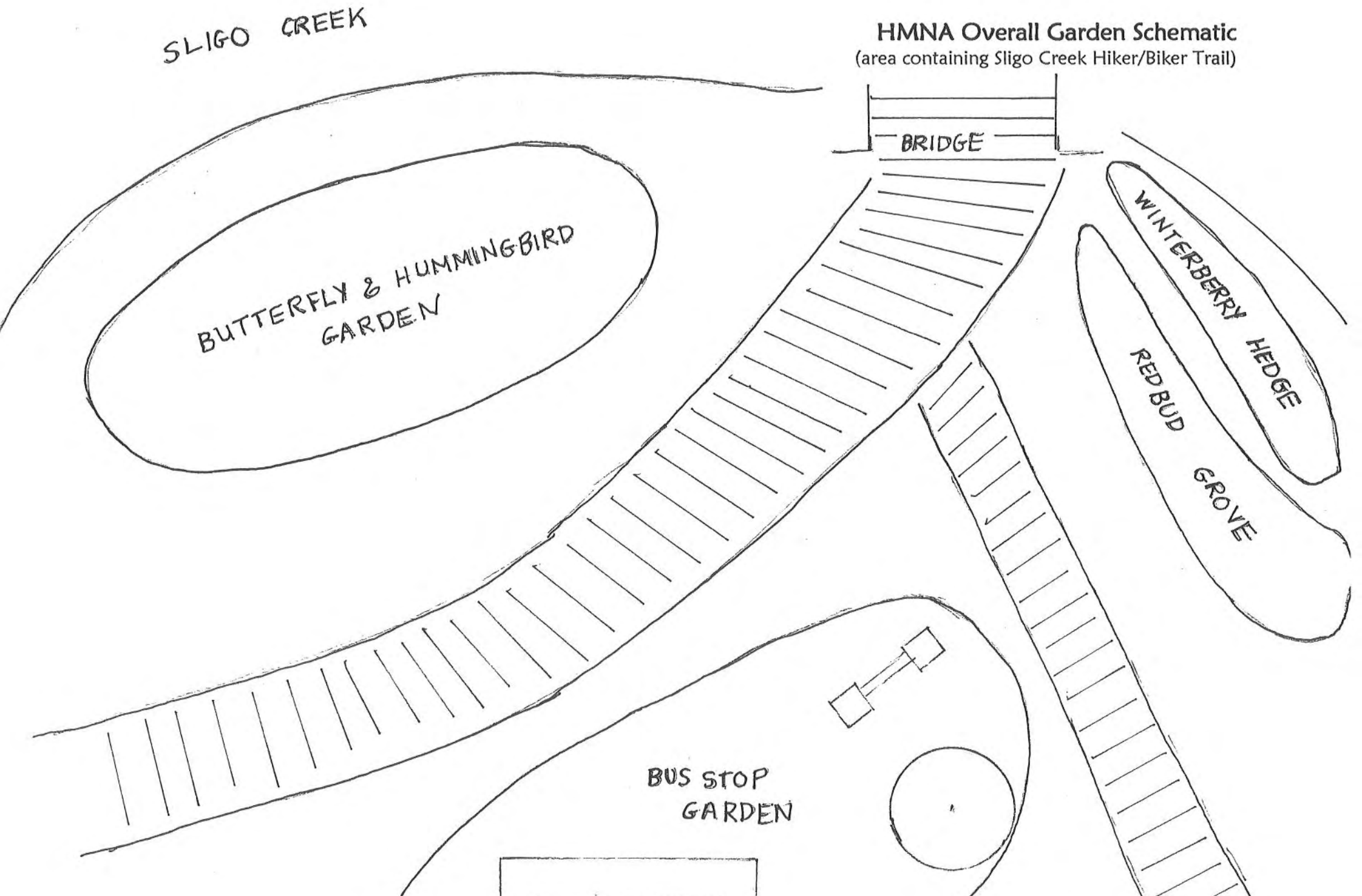


Google Maps

Notes Location for Hillwood Manor Association Garden committee beautification projects. Location 1 is the Gateway Garden; Location 2 is the grassy area where we'd like to plant four garden beds.



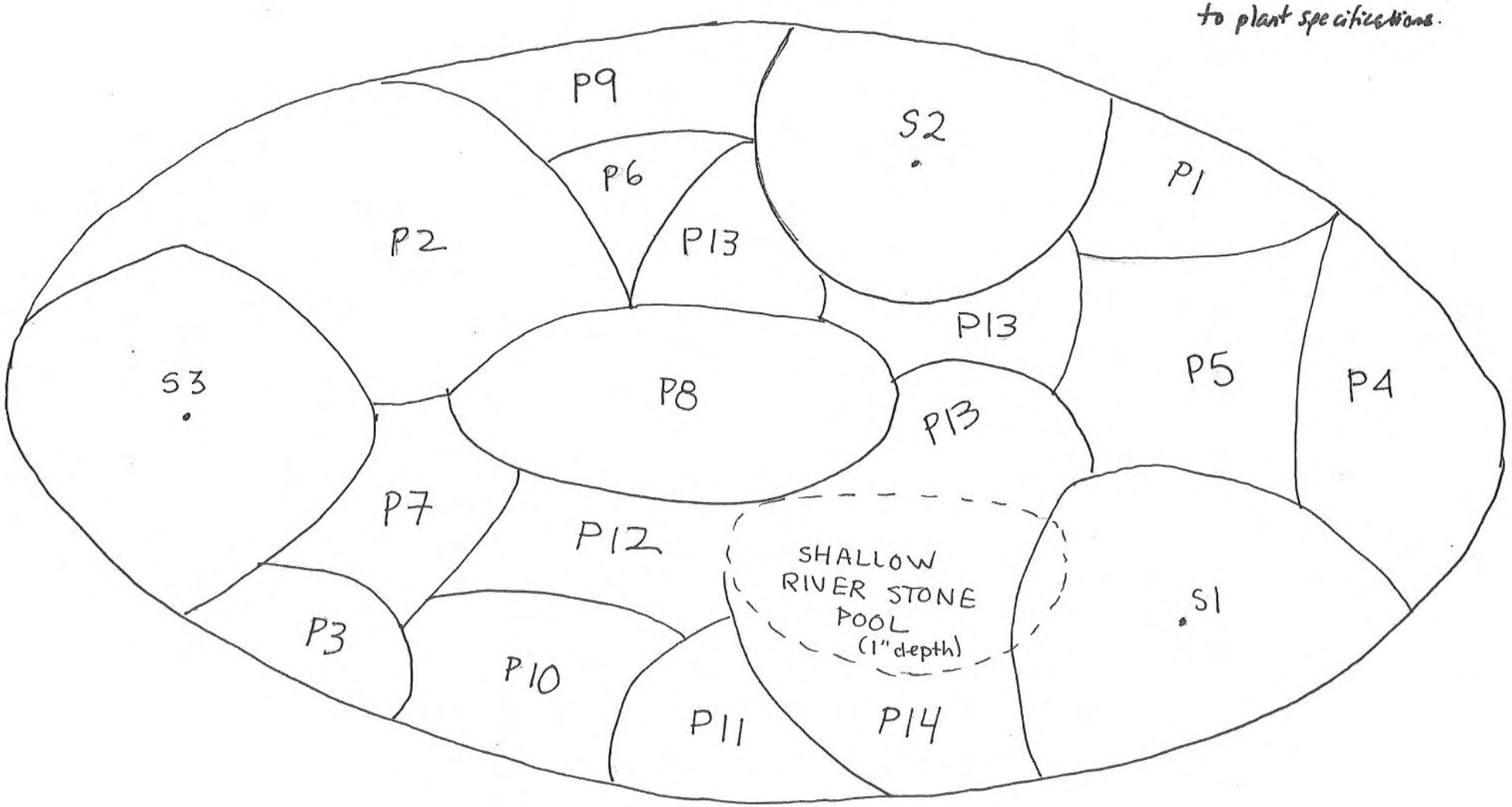
1. Gateway Garden project
2. Grassy area project where we propose four new garden beds. See following pages for detailed drawings and planting guides.


SLIGO CREEK
HMNA Overall Garden Schematic
(area containing Sligo Creek Hiker/Biker Trail)
BRIDGE
BUTTERFLY & HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN
WINTERBERRY HEDGE
RED BUD GROVE
BUS STOP GARDEN

HMNA Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden

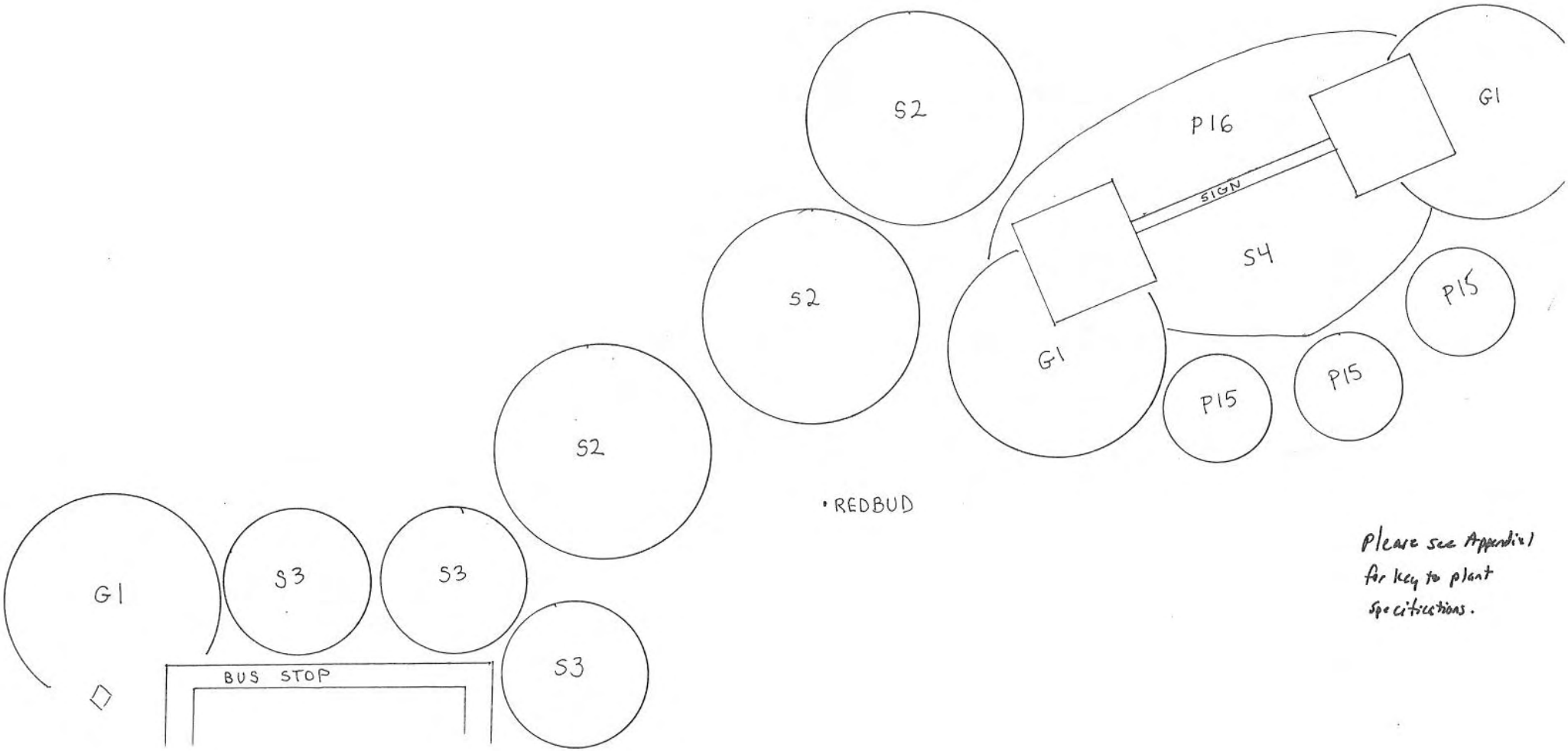
Scale: ½" = 1'

see Appendix 1 for key to plant specifications.



HMNA Bus Stop Garden

Scale ½" = 1'



Please see Appendix for key to plant specifications.