


December 11, 2024

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees 

FROM: Jeffrey P. Geoghegan, CPA  
Executive Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer

RE: Project Budget for Reflection Garden (Design: \$800,000)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approve the Design Budget of \$800,000, as detailed in the attached project budget, for the Reflection Garden project, an increase of \$608,670 over the previously approved budget of \$191,330. The Administration recommends that the Board of Trustees adopt the Resolution below.

RESOLUTION:

“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the use of \$725,000 in Gift Funds, and \$75,000 in University Funds for the Reflection Garden project.”

BACKGROUND:

This project was initiated in 2022 by two friends, active donors, and alumni who envisioned an outdoor space that fosters wellness, inclusivity, tolerance, and peace. In coordination and collaboration with the donors, UConn Foundation, the Provost, the Dean of Students, Global Affairs, Student Life & Enrollment, student leaders, and numerous campus stakeholders, the project will renovate an existing tree and lawn area to a garden space on the east side of Babbidge Library in Storrs.

The design framework was inspired by the Golden Spiral – a logarithmic spiral whose growth factor is  $\phi$ , or the Golden Ratio. That is, a golden spiral gets wider (or further from its origin) by a factor of  $\phi$  for every quarter turn it makes. Found in nature as a shell, a plant, a flower, a human ear, a hurricane or an entire galaxy, the Golden Spiral also symbolizes unity, providing a balance within a world full of diversity and change while fostering harmony, understanding, and peace.

Program elements include hardscape, concrete pavement, specialty pavers, and porous pavement. Plantings include flowering trees, deciduous shade trees, evergreen hedges, flowering shrubs and lawn areas. Site amenities include granite block seat walls with inspirational quotes and separately gifted sculptures positioned in the center of the space named “Contemplation” – an interactive installation that invites people to view themselves, their environment, and others as they experience tranquil surroundings. Site utilities include drainage, lighting and electrical relocations required to complete the project.

The Design Budget and artist renderings are attached for your information.

Attachment

## CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGET REPORTING FORM

**TYPE BUDGET:**           **DESIGN**

**PROJECT NAME:**           **REFLECTION GARDEN**

	<b>APPROVED</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>
	<b>PLANNING</b>	<b>DESIGN</b>
<b><u>BUDGETED EXPENDITURES</u></b>	<b><u>1/29/2024</u></b>	<b><u>12/11/2024</u></b>
	PRC	
CONSTRUCTION	\$ -	\$ 600,000
DESIGN SERVICES	120,000	70,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	-	12,500
FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT	-	7,500
CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION	-	15,000
OTHER AE SERVICES (including Project Management)	20,000	5,000
ART	-	-
RELOCATION	-	-
ENVIRONMENTAL	-	5,000
INSURANCE AND LEGAL	5,000	-
MISCELLANEOUS	-	5,000
OTHER SOFT COSTS	-	-
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 145,000</b>	<b>\$ 720,000</b>
PROJECT CONTINGENCY 10%	46,330	80,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES</b>	<b><u>\$ 191,330</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 800,000</u></b>
<b><u>SOURCE(S) OF FUNDING*</u></b>		
GIFT FUNDS	\$ 191,330	\$ 725,000
UNIVERSITY FUNDS	-	75,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED FUNDING</b>	<b><u>\$ 191,330</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 800,000</u></b>

\* This budget reflects the University's current intended source(s) of funding for the specified project. The University may adjust this funding plan in order to ensure compliance with applicable federal and state law(s) or to strategically utilize all fund sources, within the approved budget amount, as appropriate.

REFLECTION GARDEN  
Project Budget (DESIGN)  
December 11, 2024



*Site plan and view into Garden*

