



# Trees, Stormwater, and Suspended Pavements

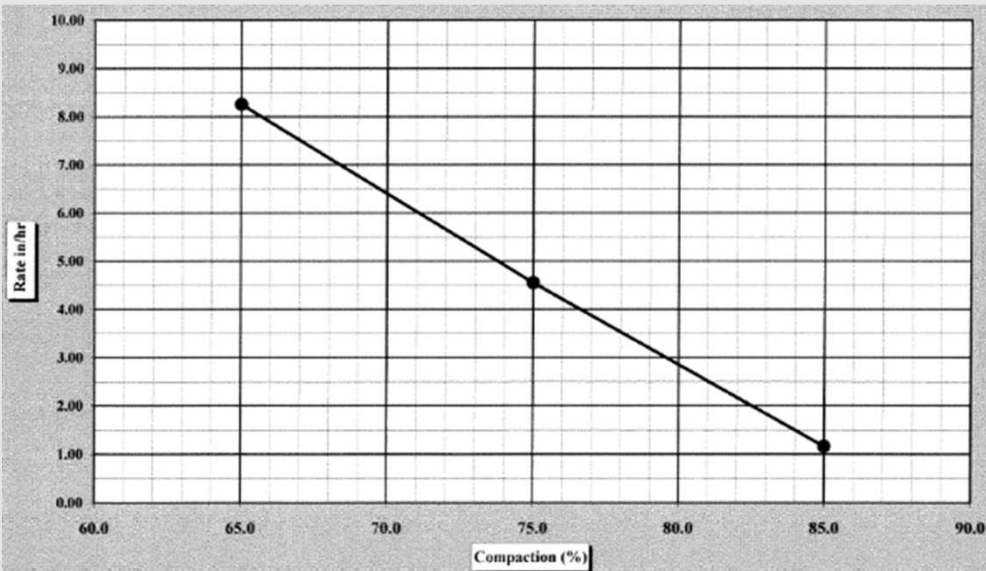
## Research and Reality

© DeepRoot Green Infrastructure



# Compaction, Filtration and Plant Health

## Infiltration reduction

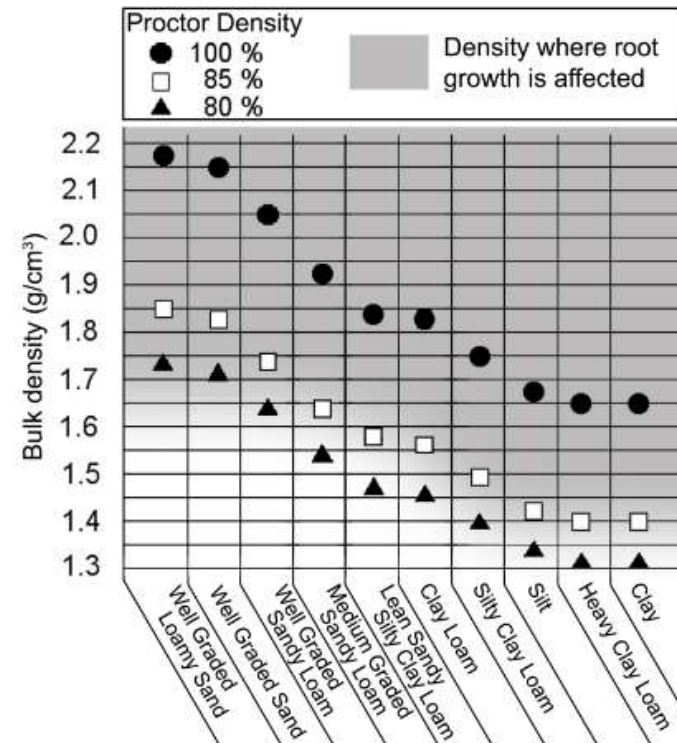


Source: [www.bae.ncsu.edu/stormwater](http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/stormwater)

Compaction affects infiltration rate  
of soil and plant growth

Suspended pavement mitigates both issues

## Root Restriction



Source: James Urban; Up by Roots;  
Adapted from Daddow and Warrington USFS 1983

# What is Suspended Pavement?



Image: James Urban

# Northumberland Avenue, London UK 1898- 2018



Courtesy of Mark Johnson: Street Trees in Britain- a History” Windgather Press, 2017

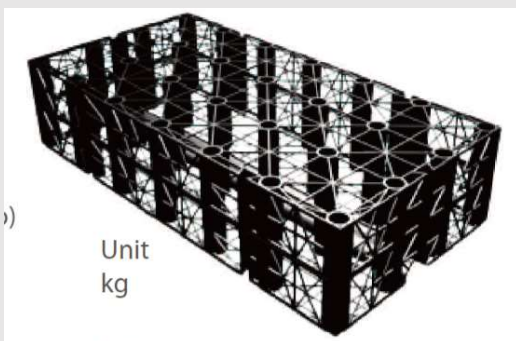
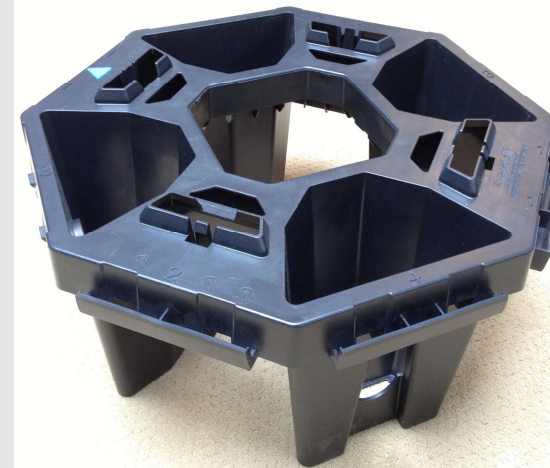
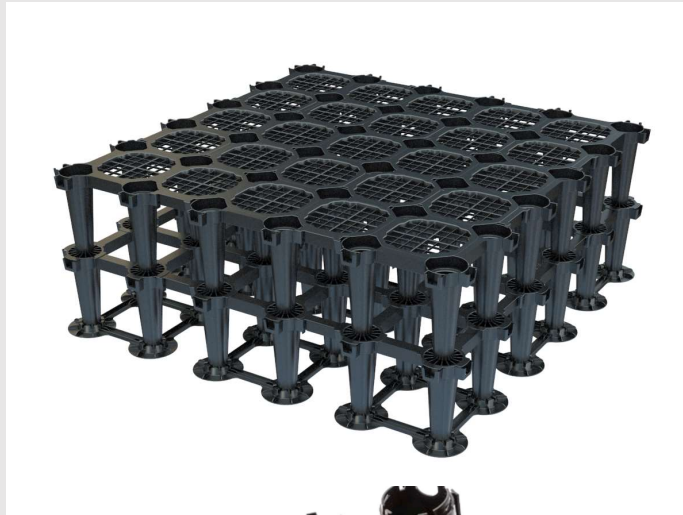
# Christian Science Center, Boston, MA; 1968



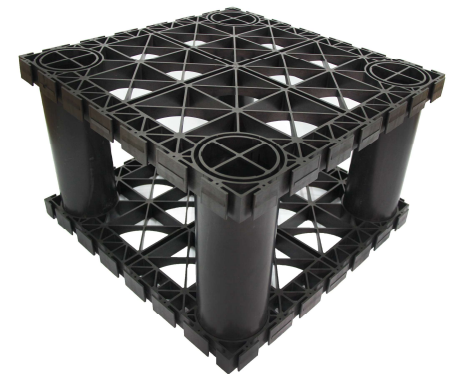
# Structural Cells- Approx. 15 Types



Only Soil Cell Made in North America



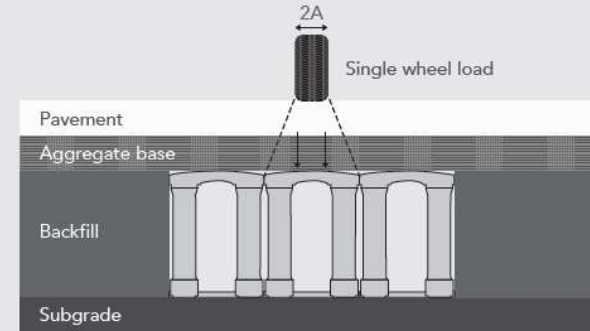
Unit  
kg



# Pay attention to specs

## ULTIMATE WHEEL LOAD BY STANDARD PAVEMENT TYPE

The table below provides the maximum load that can be on any single wheel (tire), or per axle, for a given pavement section, assuming tires have a contact area equal to either the AASHTO H-20 standard of a 14.25" radius or the AASHTO HS-20 standard of a 10" x 20" rectangle. For more details, please refer to the Silva Cell 2 Engineering Report and Testing Conclusions.



Some configurations are untested

Silva Cell 2 System Type	Traffic Loading Standard	Pavers		Asphalt		Concrete		Pavers with Concrete	
		3.15" pavers 1" sand base 12" of aggregate		4" of asphalt 12" of aggregate		4" of concrete 4" of aggregate		2.36" pavers 5" concrete	
		Wheel	Axle	Wheel	Axle	Wheel	Axle	Wheel	Axle
1X	H-20	30,200 lbs	60,400 lbs	40,600 lbs	93,200 lbs	34,900 lbs	69,800 lbs	38,600 lbs	77,200 lbs
	HS-20	31,800 lbs	63,600 lbs	48,700 lbs	97,400 lbs	35,900 lbs	71,800 lbs	41,100 lbs	82,200 lbs
2X	H-20	33,200 lbs	66,400 lbs	51,200 lbs	102,400 lbs	38,300 lbs	76,600 lbs	42,200 lbs	84,800 lbs
	HS-20	34,900 lbs	69,800 lbs	53,500 lbs	107,000 lbs	39,500 lbs	79,000 lbs	45,200 lbs	90,400 lbs
3X	H-20	28,200 lbs	56,400 lbs	43,500 lbs	87,000 lbs	32,600 lbs	65,200 lbs	36,000 lbs	72,000 lbs
	HS-20	29,700 lbs	59,400 lbs	45,500 lbs	91,000 lbs	33,600 lbs	67,200 lbs	38,400 lbs	76,800 lbs

# PSI is not an accurate measure of load

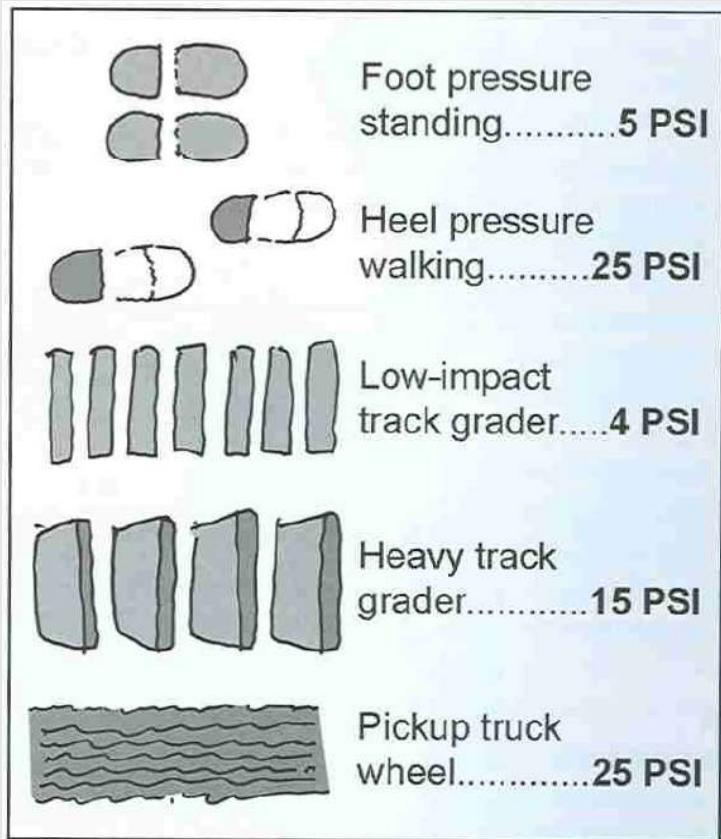


Figure 4. Compaction forces of vehicles and pedestrians.



# False Creek Esplanade, Vancouver, BC 2008



# False Creek Esplanade, Vancouver, BC-2008-2017



# Selected NY Projects

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# Julliard School (65<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC) 2008-2018



# Lincoln Center Bosque NYC 2008-2018



# East Midtown Greenway 2021-2023



# East Midtown Greenway 2021-2023



# Riverbank West, 2018



February



July



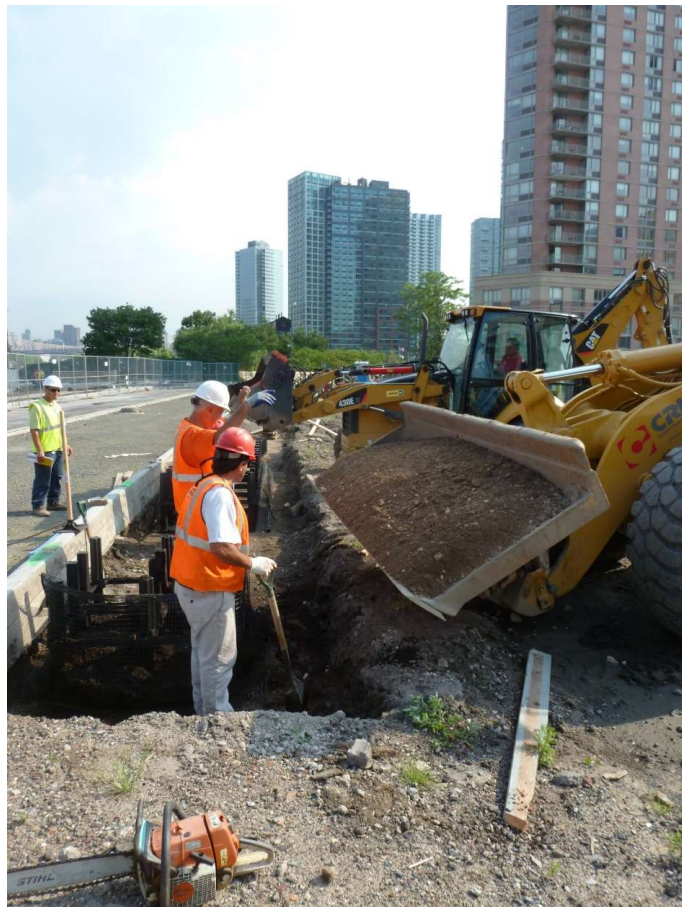
# Plaza de las Americas NYC 2015-2018



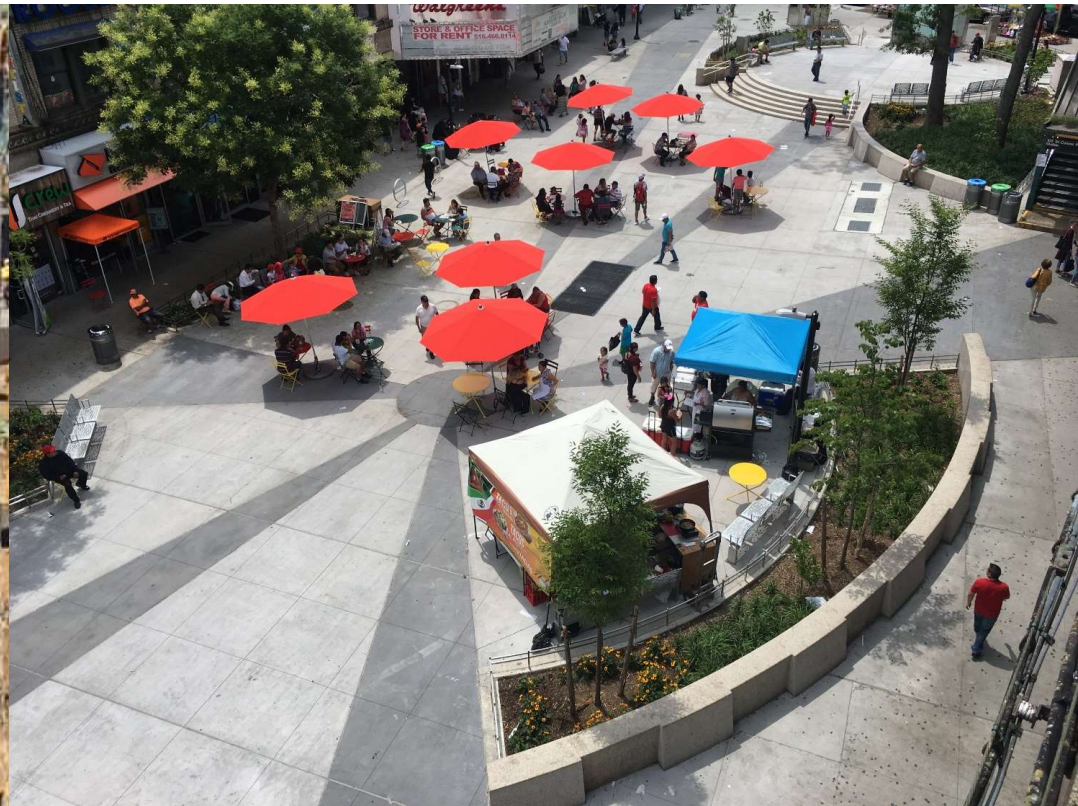
# Hunter's Point, Queens NYC



# Hunter's Point Long Island City, NY 2015-2017



# Corona Plaza, Queens NYC 2016-2018



# PS 78, Bronx NYC 2010- 2017



# PS78 Bronx NYC 2010-2017



# 1 Ridgely Road, Yonkers NY 2013-2017



# Arthur Ashe Stadium NYC 2016-2019





# Cooper Hewitt Museum NYC- 2015-1018



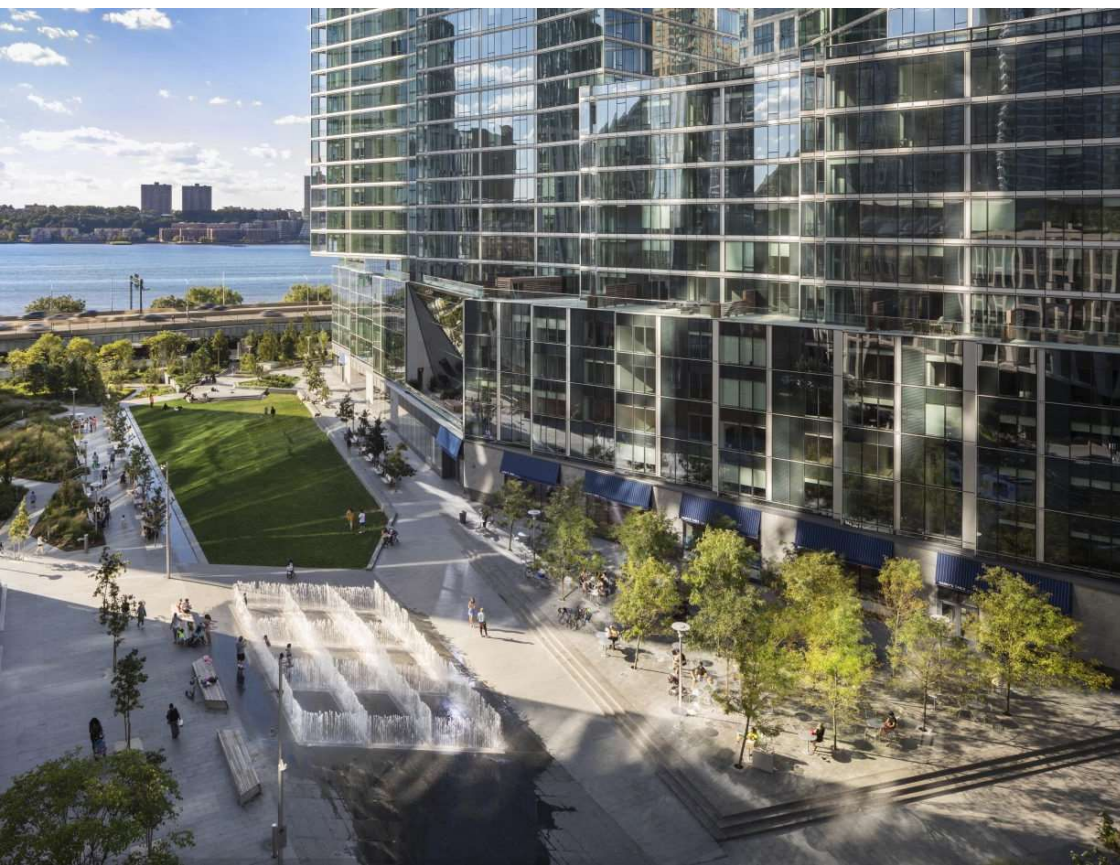
Metropolitan Museum of Art NYC, August 2019



# University Avenue, Syracuse, NY 2012-1016



# Waterline Square, NYC

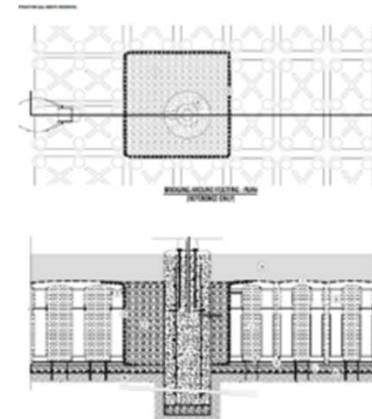
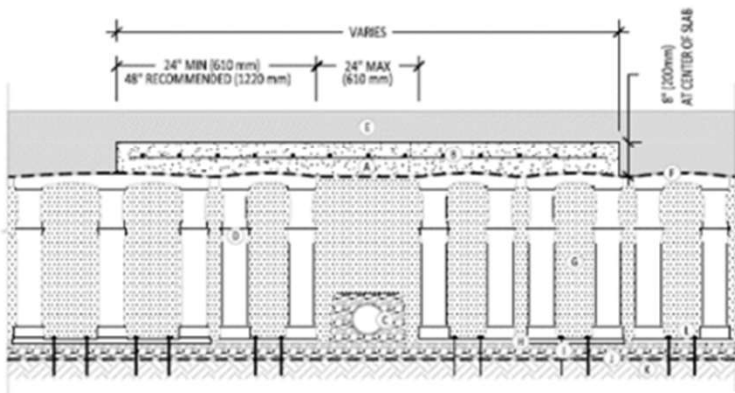
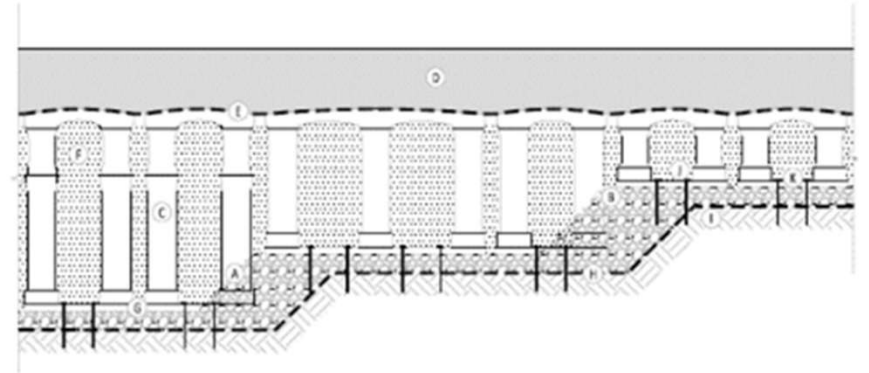
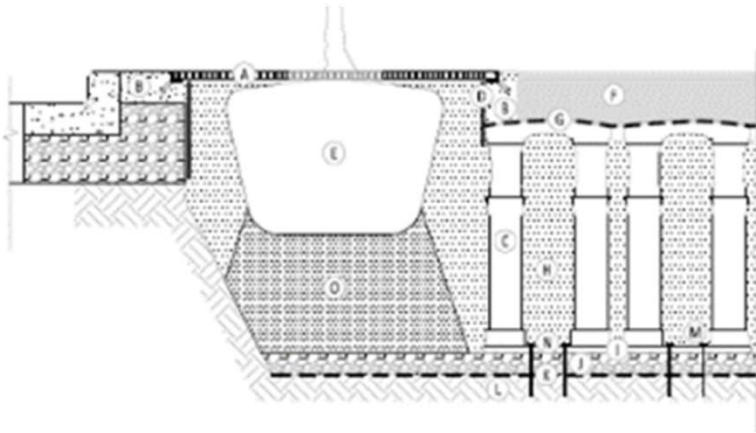


- Photo by Elizabeth Felicella

# Utility Installation, Maintenance and Repair

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# Incorporation of Utilities detailing



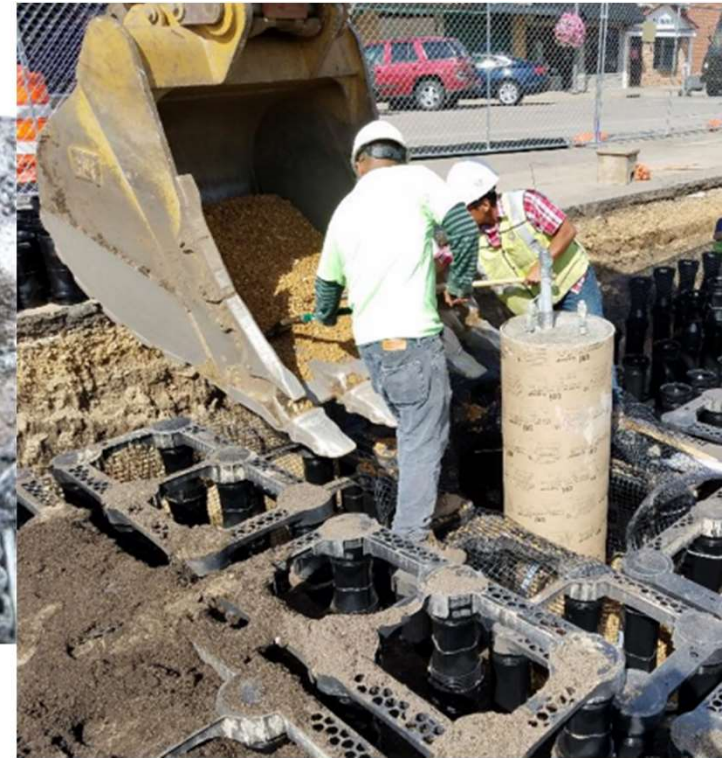
# Independent stacking units



## Unconnected design enables:

- Ability to field-fit Soil Cells by adjusting spacing
- Ability to limit damage of unplanned excavation
- Easy removal for future utility work

# Incorporation of Utilities Installation & Planning





# Emergency Water Main Repair (Toronto, ON)



**In an emergency you can dig right through the Soil Cells – treat them like dirt as they are 90% dirt.**

# Emergency Water Main Repair (Toronto, ON)



**The adjacent Soil Cells are not damaged or disturbed as they are not connected.**

- No cross beams
- to interfere with
- Utilities
- Up to 14" Pipe



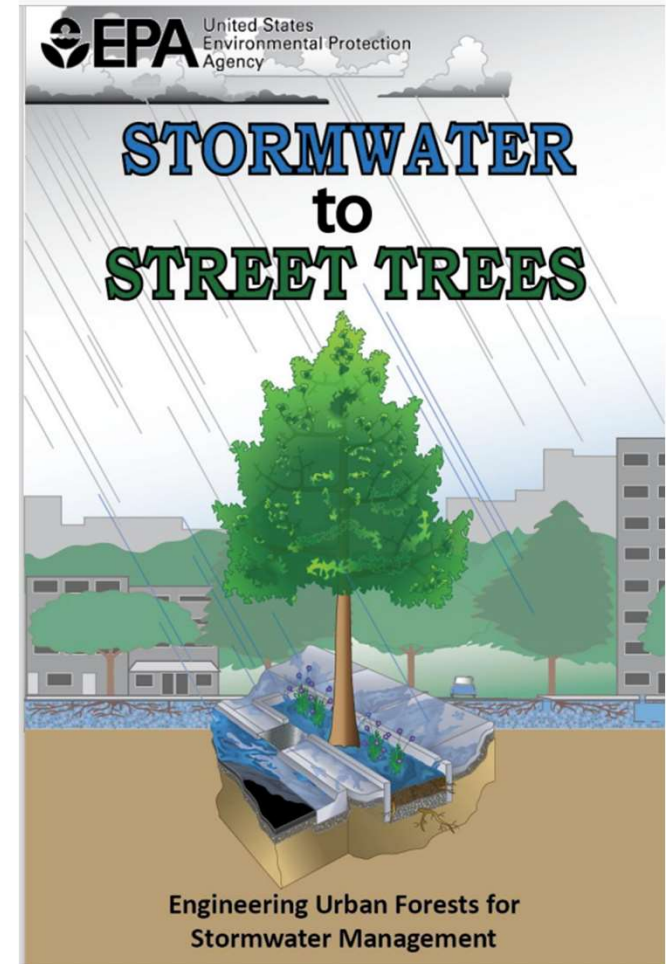
# Stormwater Applications

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# Recommended by EPA

*Structural cell installation in an urban streetscape; frames and decks pictured (below). Completed installation showing trees growing in the structural cell system (right). Photos courtesy of Deep Root Partners, L.P.*



# Soil Cell as Equivalent to Bioretention



**MD Environment** ✓  
@MDEnvironment



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
*Environmental Quality*

Save the Rain



Tom Rhoads, P.E.  
Commissioner



**project**  
**clear**

wastewater + stormwater



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

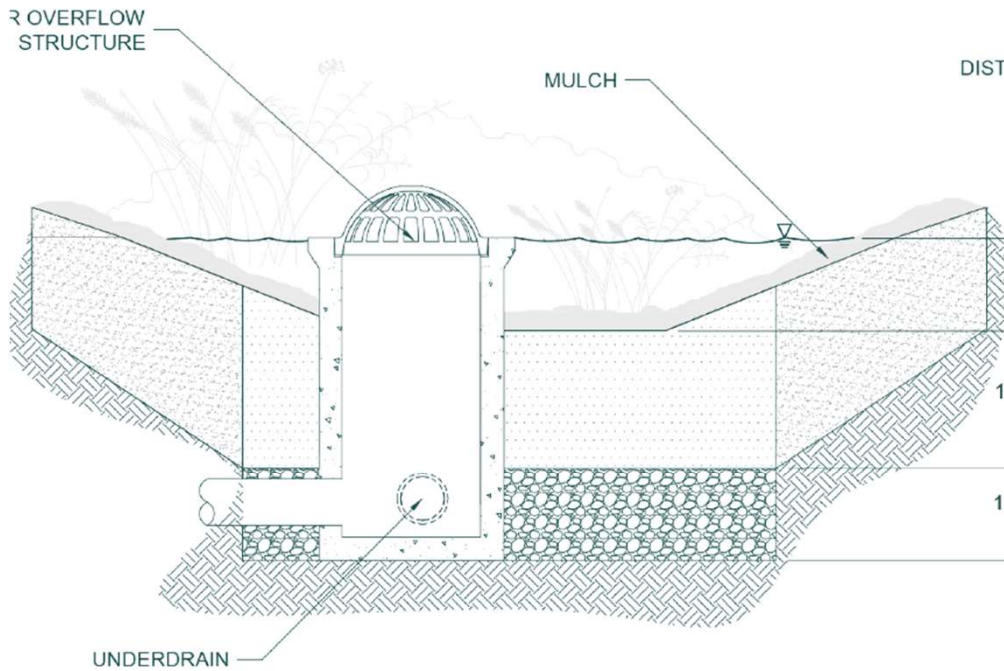


**VIRGINIA TECH.**

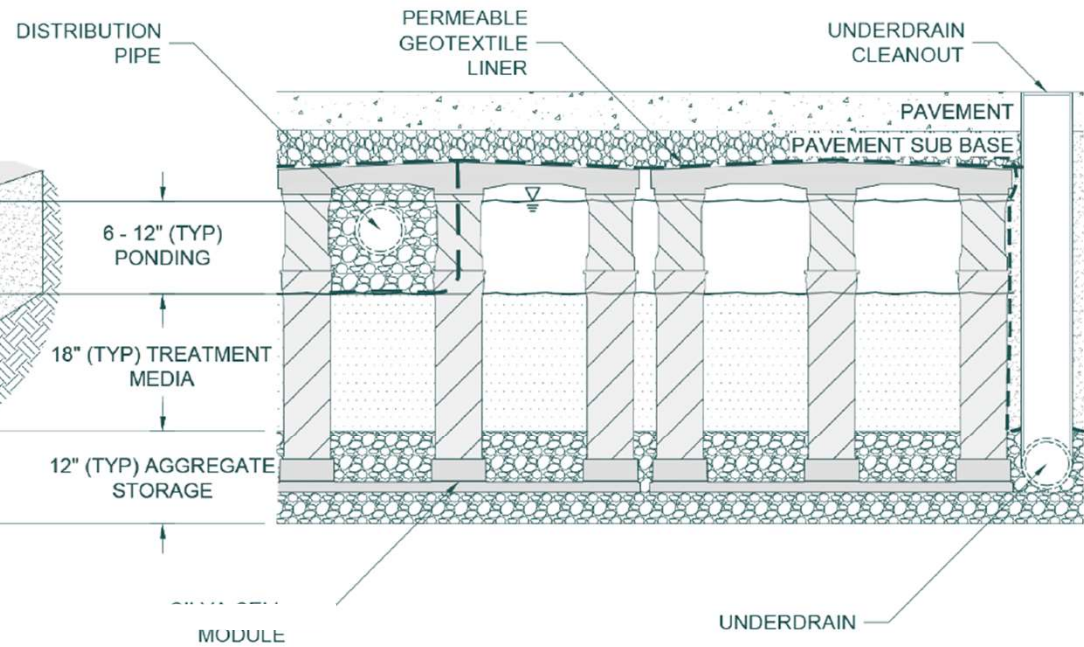
★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT  
OF ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

# Bioretention Under Pavement

## Typical Bioretention



## Soil Cell Bioretention



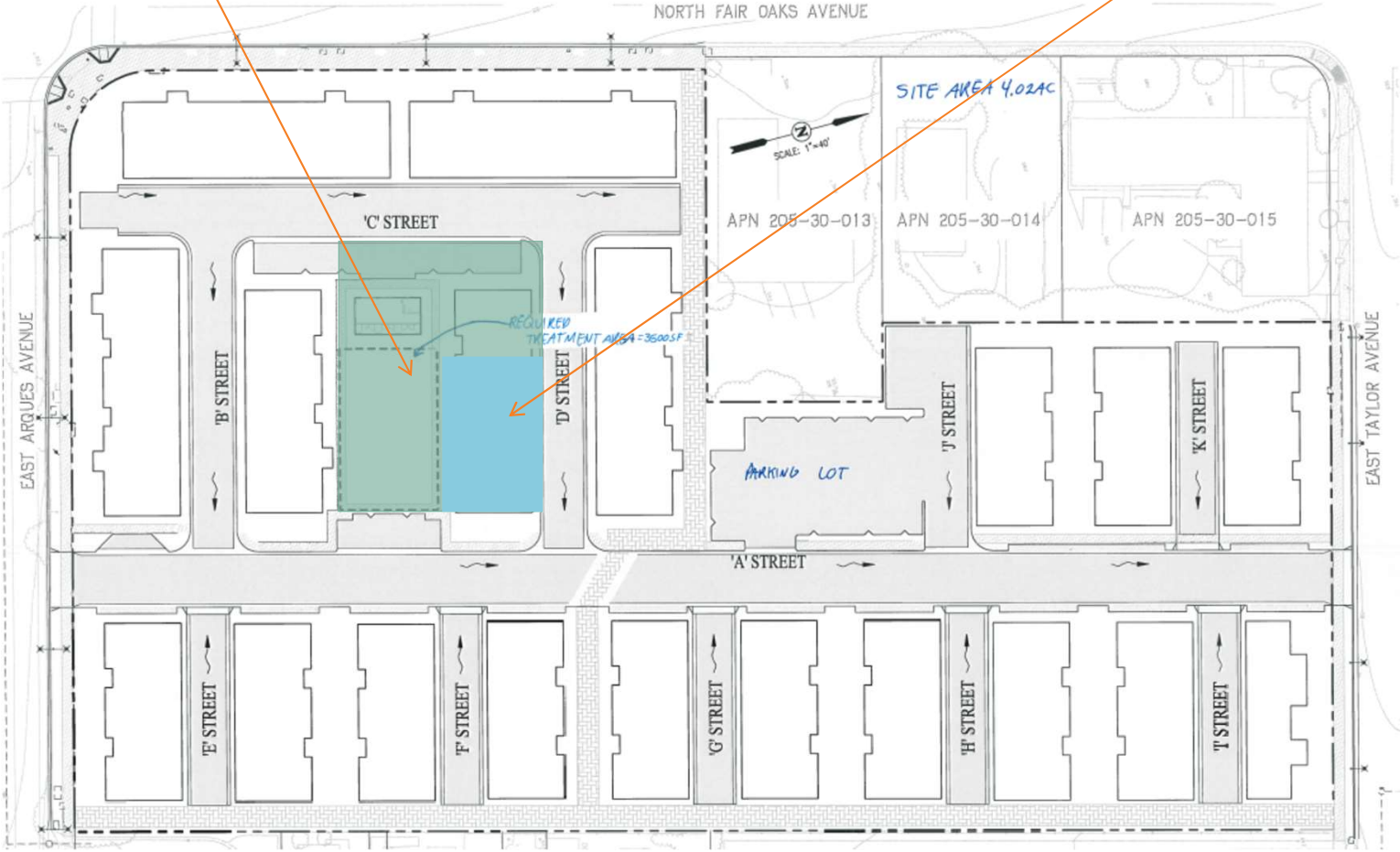
### BIORETENTION NOTES:

- TYPICAL BIORETENTION CROSS SECTION ADAPTED FROM SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (SFPUC) TYPICAL DETAILS (2017)

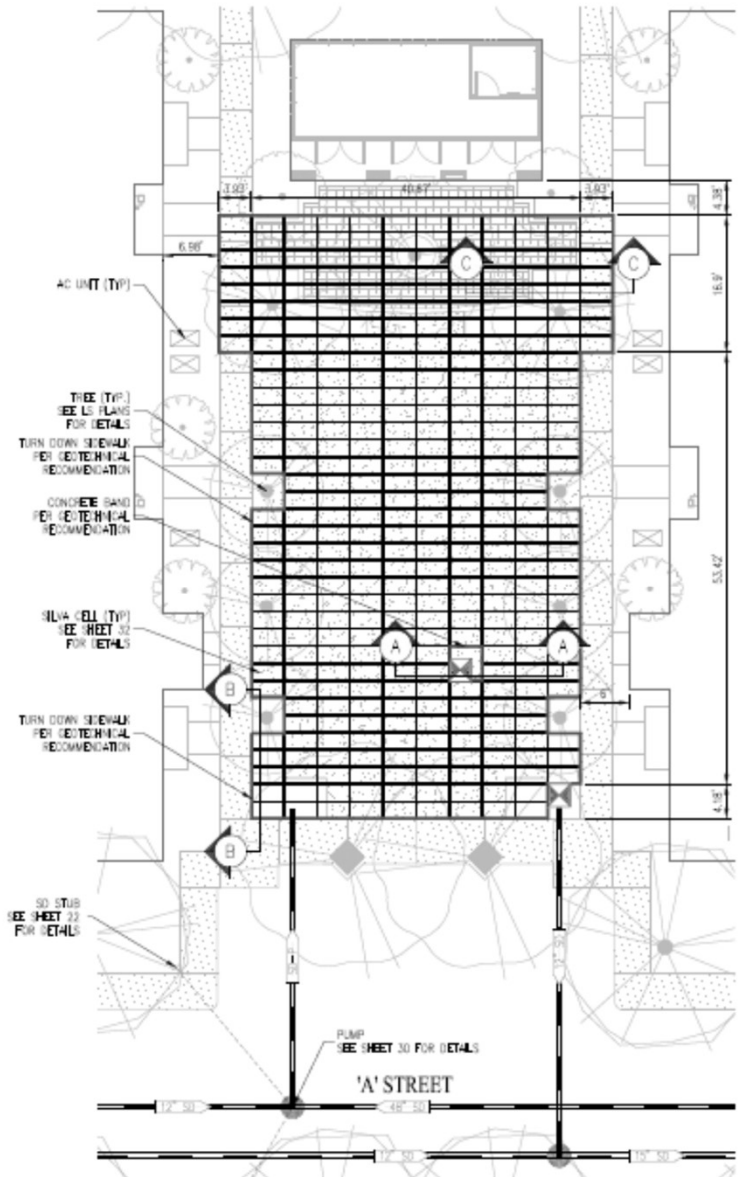
**East Arques Ave, California**  
4 acres catchment area

Soil Cell Central Plaza and Stormwater Treatment Area (3500ft<sup>2</sup>)

Original Stormwater Pond with setbacks and berm



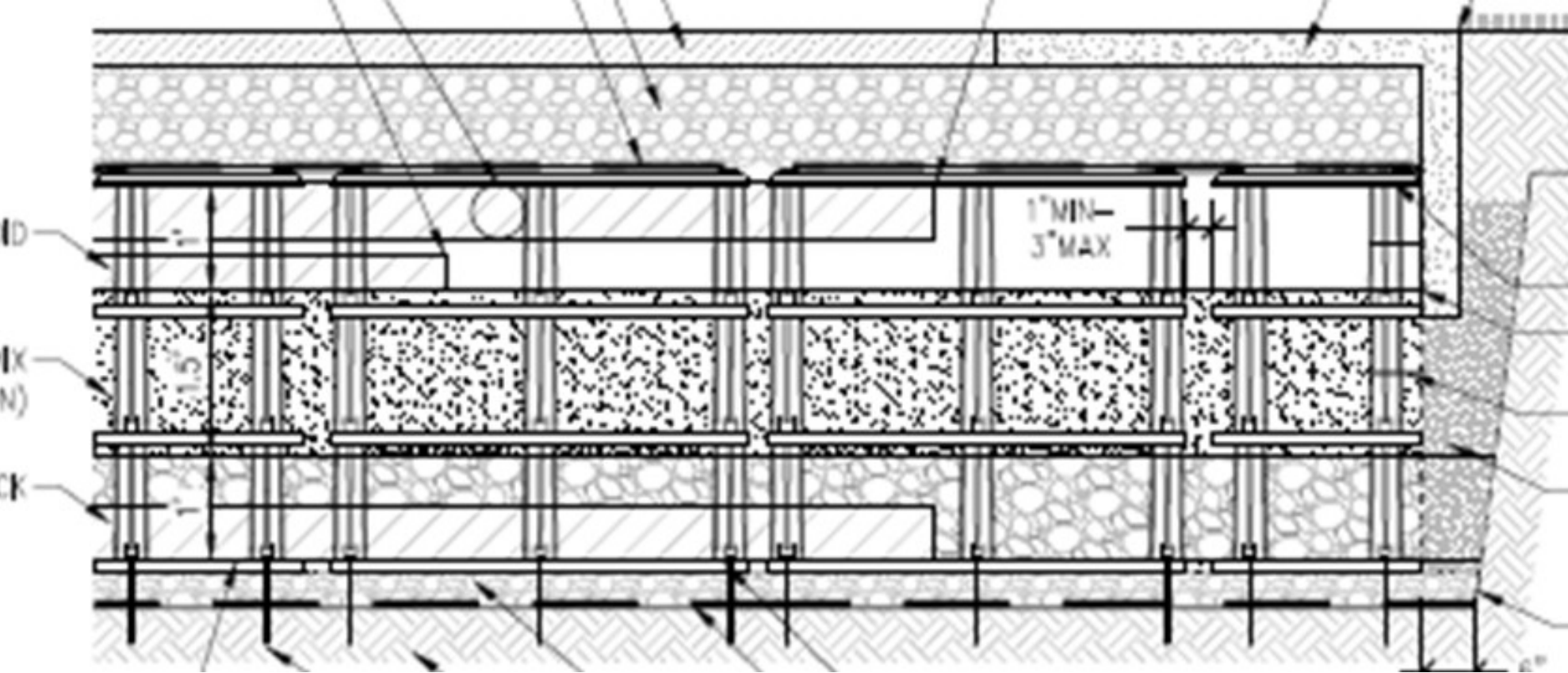




# Soil Cell Plaza

4" = 1' 0"

# East Arques Bioretention Section



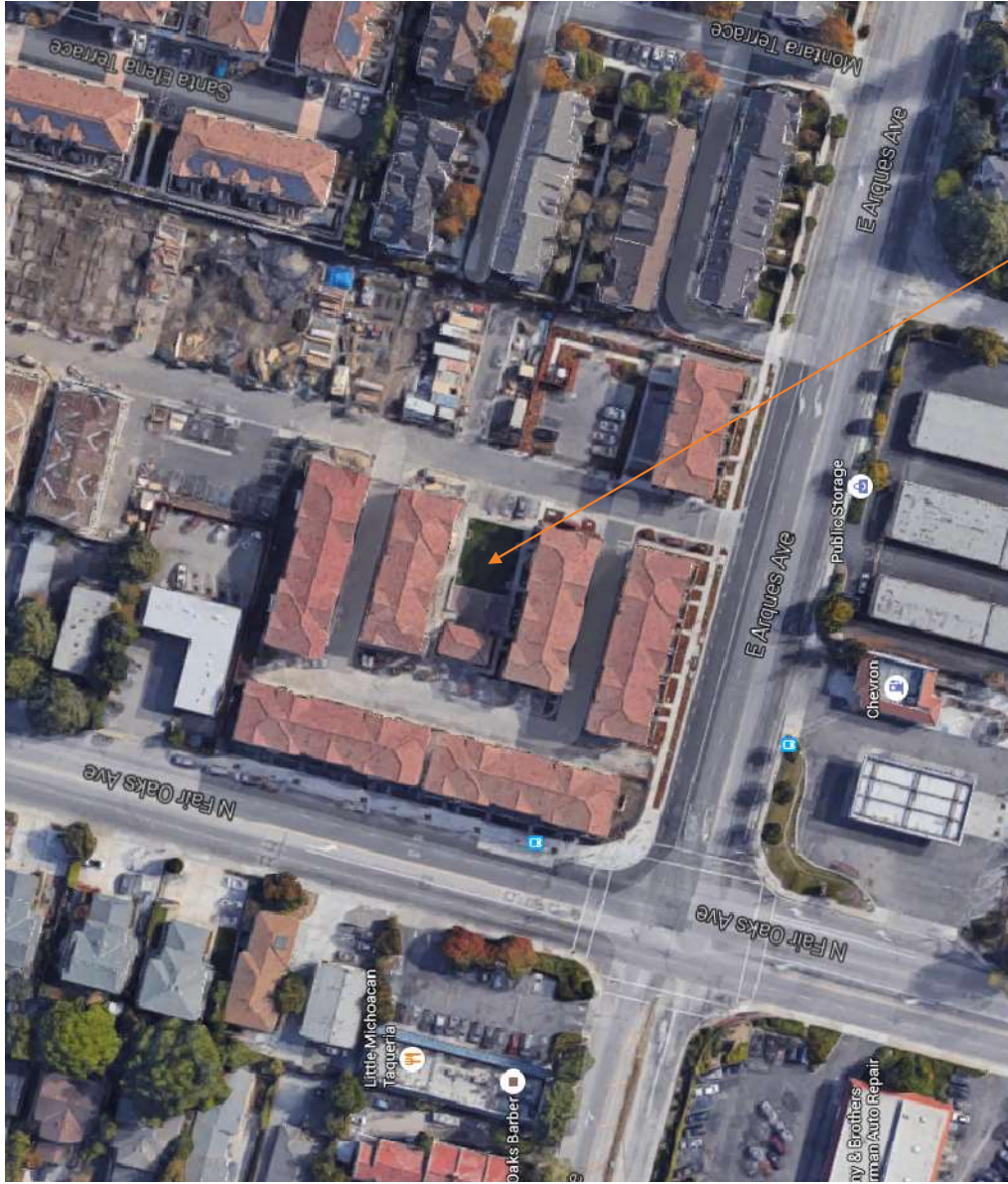


# Ponding Space



# Overflow Structure

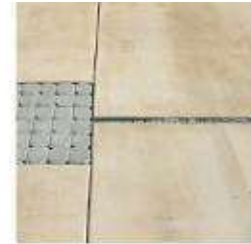




Plaza and Trees  
2014

2016

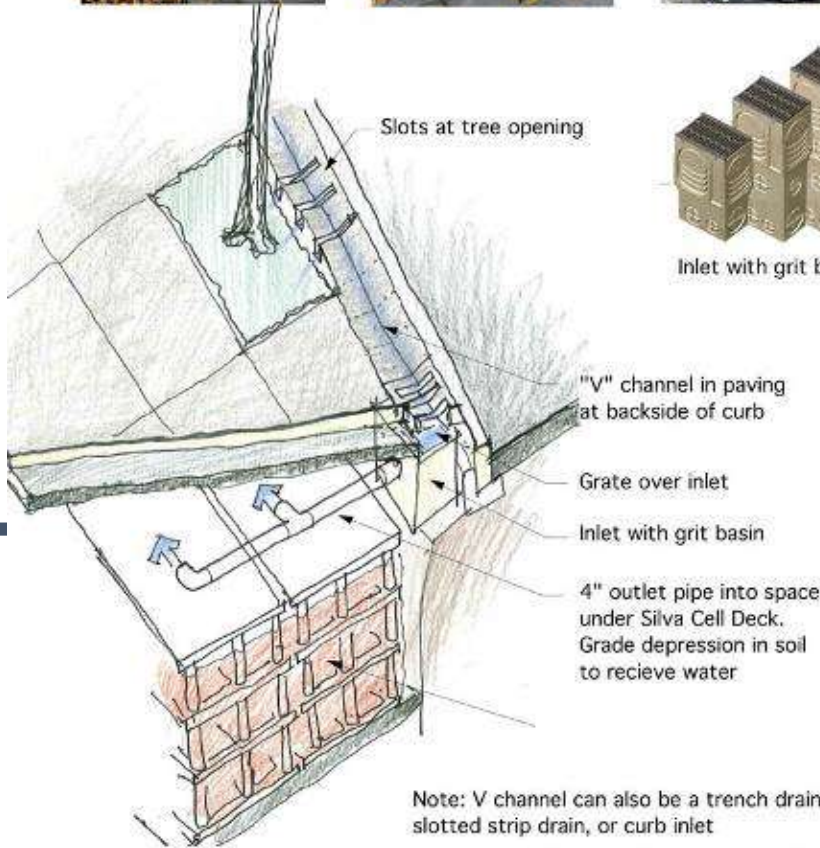




Pervious pavers

Pervious pavers

Pervious pavers and slot drain through paving



Water Harvesting Options



Inlet with grit basin



Trench drain



Trench drain



Slot drain

# Water In



Curb inlet

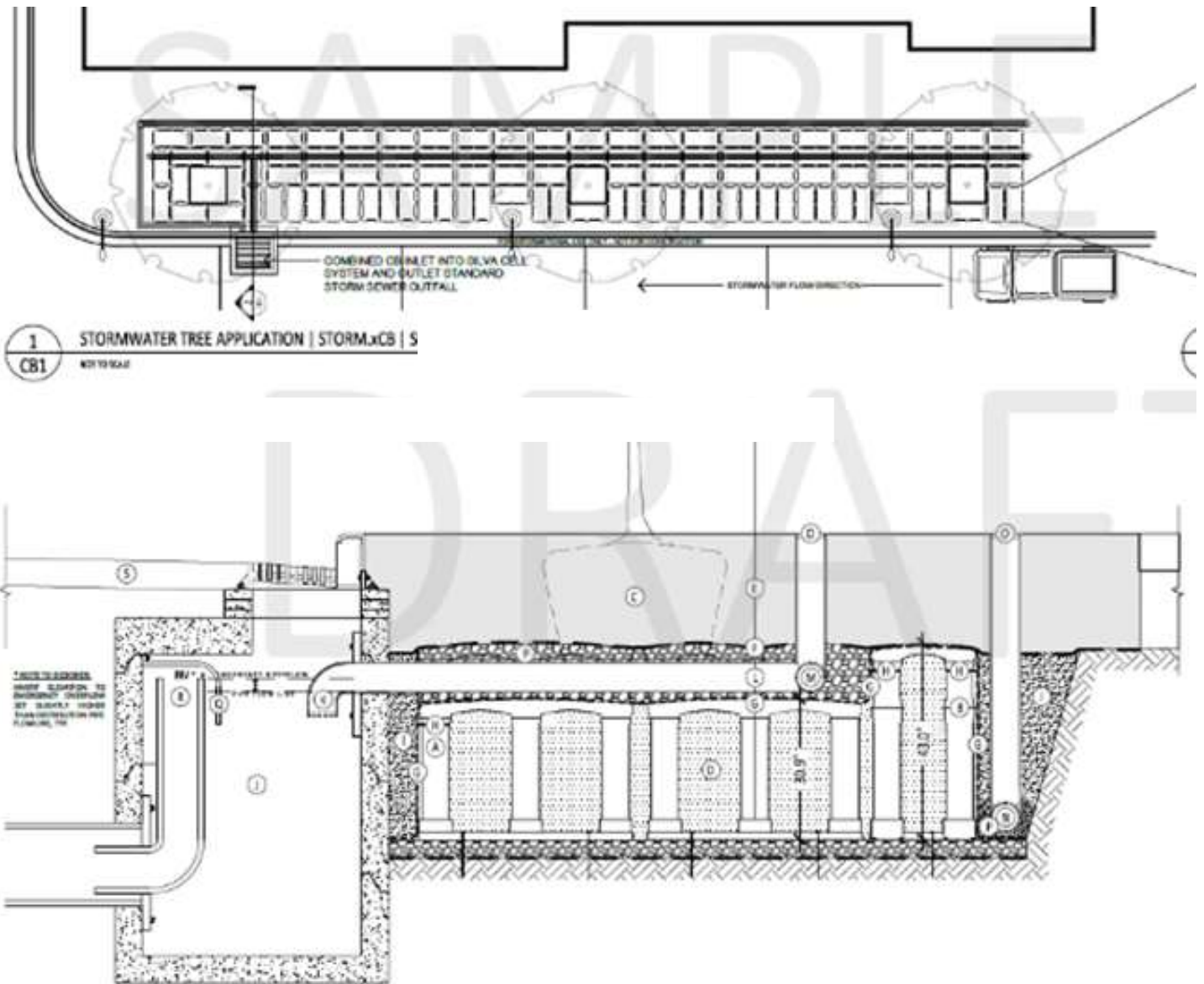


Open jointed paver water interception into a planted area

Water Harvesting Options



# Storm Water Detail, Typical Soil Cell





Under-drain  
and cleanout



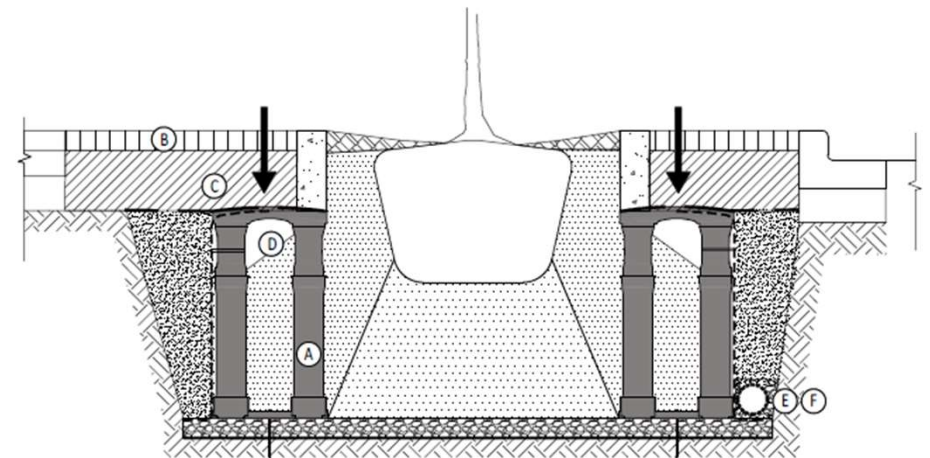
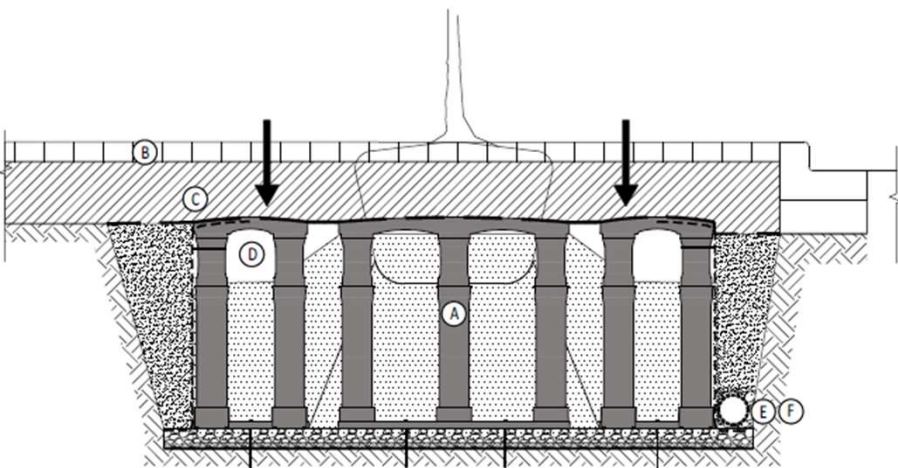
Lower cell in the back row will support the Stormwater distribution pipe



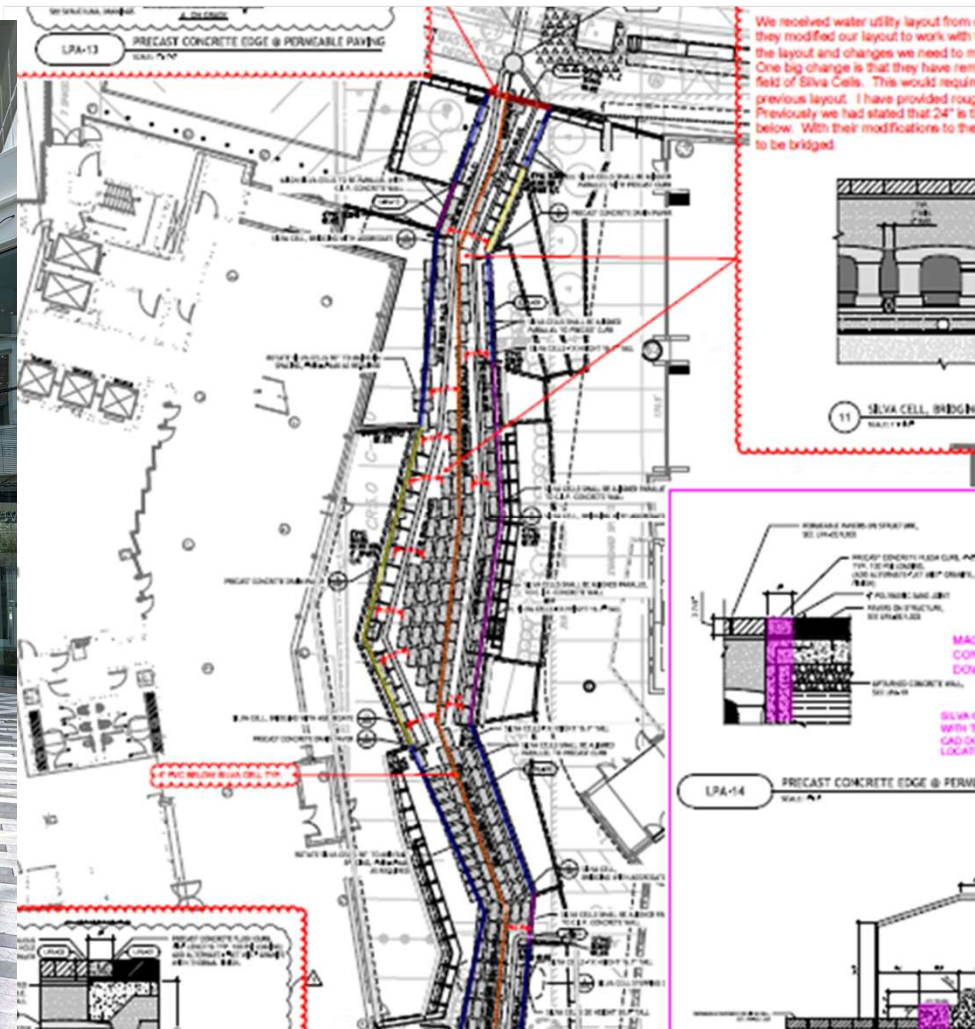


**3 Years Old - 2019**

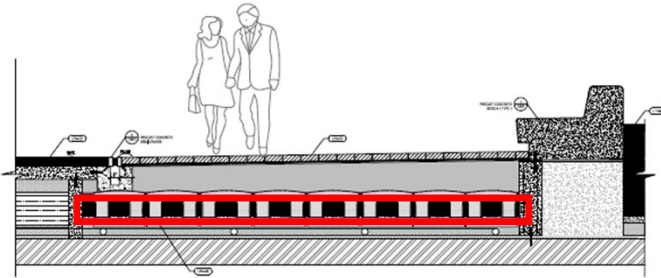
# Pervious Pavement Soil Cell



# Marriott Headquarters, Bethesda MD



# Basic Volume Calcs at Marriott

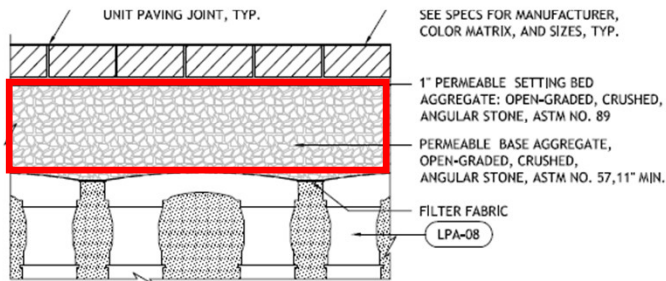


306 Cells at 10.33 ft<sup>2</sup> each=3161 ft<sup>2</sup>  
 Soil volume 1X&2x= 4792 ft<sup>3</sup> media  
 40% holding allowed:  
 1917 ft<sup>3</sup> of water

Total Volume:  
 5,173 ft<sup>3</sup>

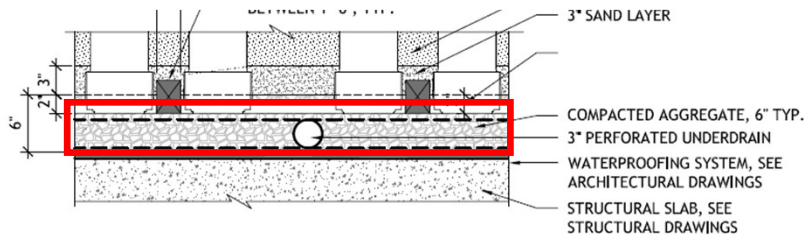
**5173/3161=**  
**19" rain event**

38,697 gallons



CA Base course over cells:10"  
 .833'x 3161= 2633 ft<sup>3</sup> water  
 40% holding allowed  
 1053ft<sup>3</sup> of water

Columns?  
 Additional  
 7344 gallons



Sub base under cells:  
 .5'x 3161'= 1581ft<sup>3</sup>  
 40% holding capacity allowed  
 632 ft<sup>3</sup> water



# Research

Ryerson University; UNC Wilmington; U TN- Knoxville

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# Two Soil Cell Installations Wilmington, NC



# NCSU- Test site install



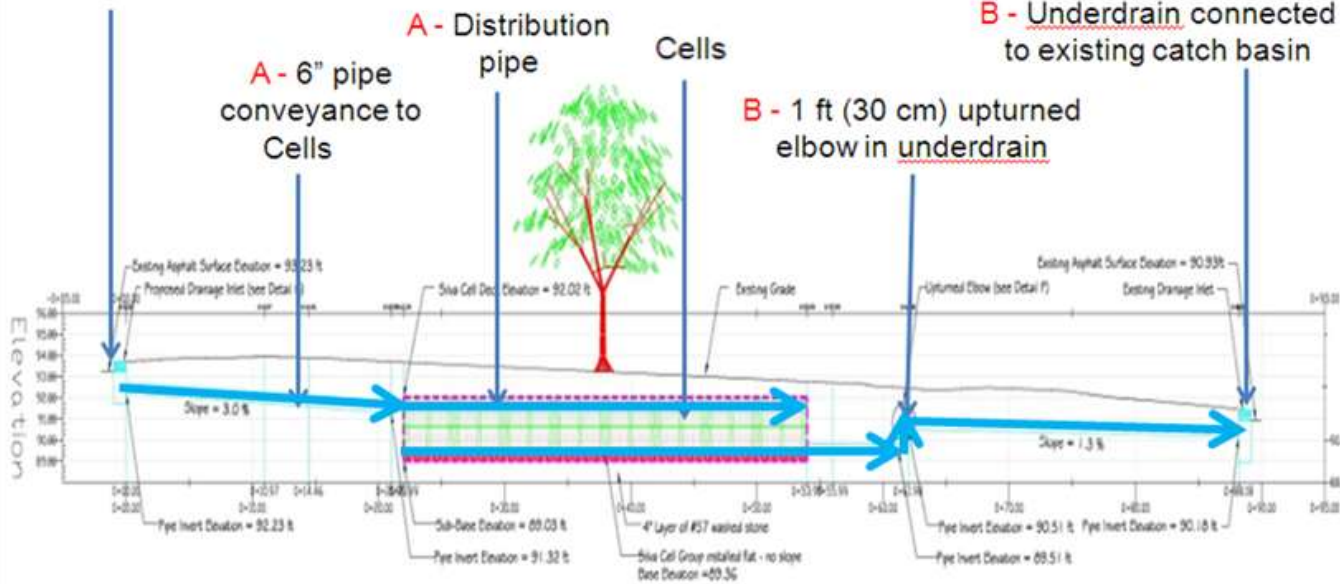
# NCSU Soil Cell Schematic & Install

## Stormwater Routing Cross Section

**A** - New catch basin with sump along curb line at upslope end of system

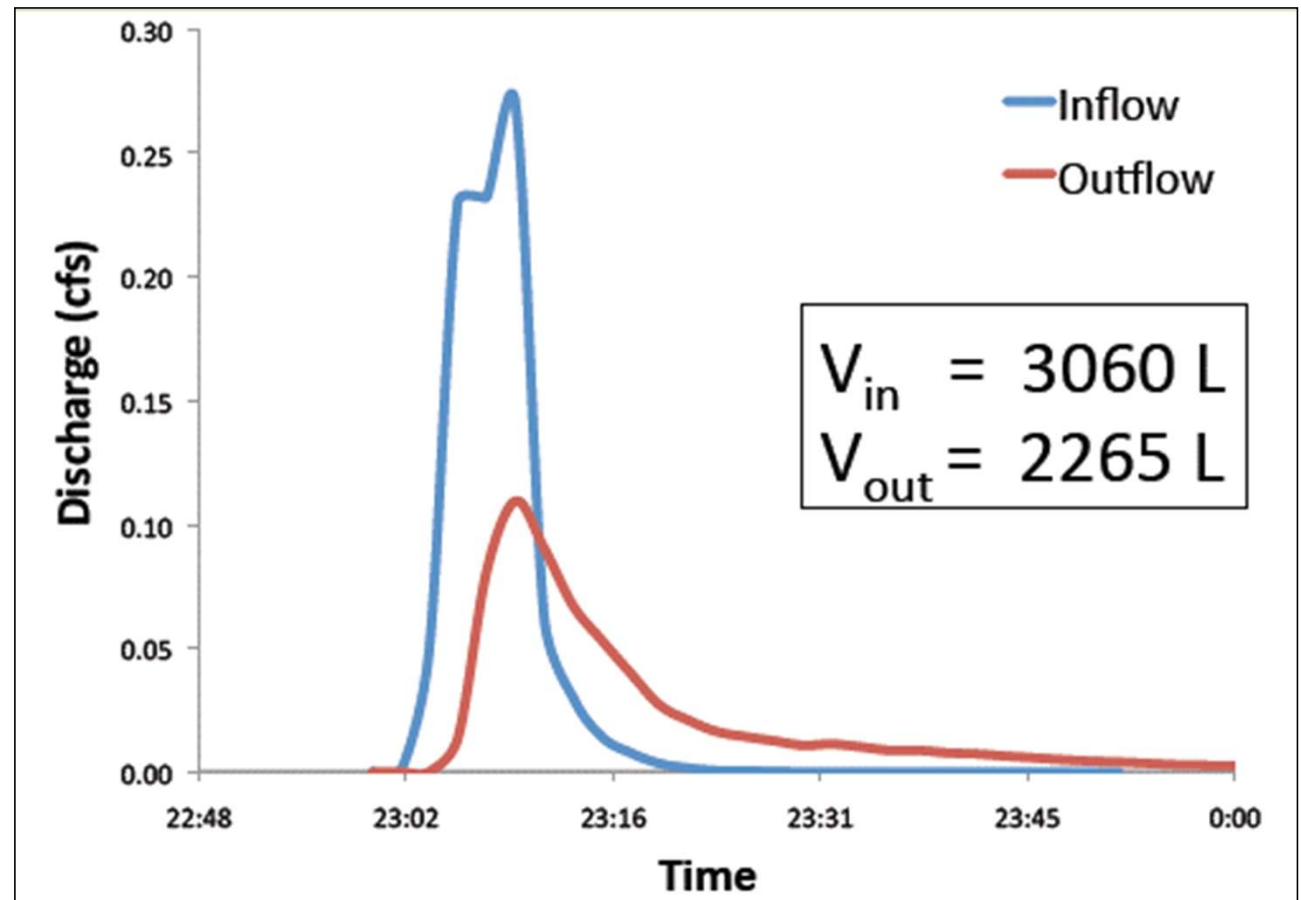
**A** - 6" pipe conveyance to Cells  
**A** - Distribution pipe  
Cells

**B** - Underdrain connected to existing catch basin  
**B** - 1 ft (30 cm) upturned elbow in underdrain



# NCSU- Typical Data-Volume

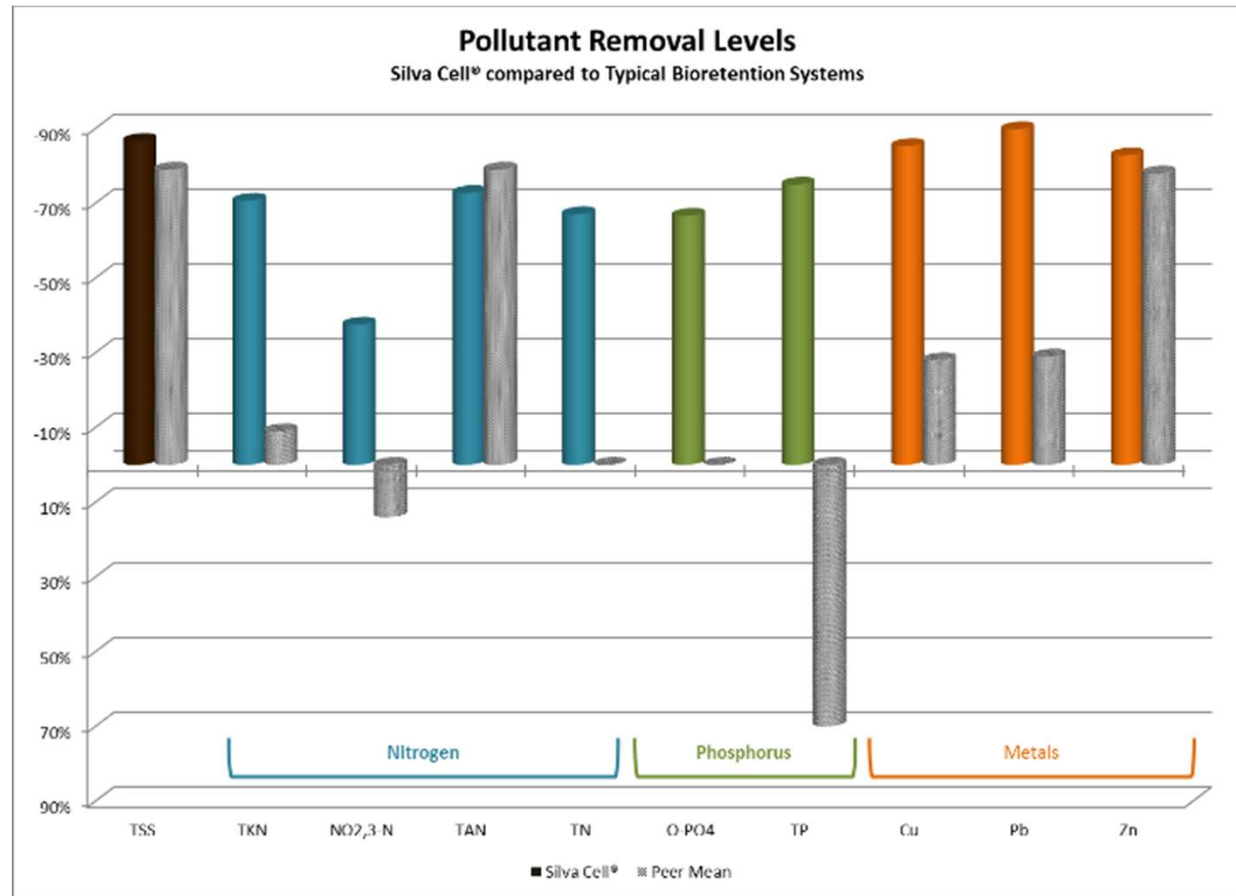
Hydrograph from 12.7 mm (0.5 in) storm on 9/6/12, Ann Street (typical street tree soil),



Source: Page, J.L., R.J. Winston, and W.F. Hunt, III. 2013. Field Monitoring of Two Soil Cell™ Installations in Wilmington, North Carolina: Preliminary Monitoring Report.

# Demonstrated pollutant removal

- Removal rates *at or above* peer mean bioretention mixes
- Particularly good nutrient removal
  - **Nitrogen:** 72-74% removal vs. typical 14% leaching (nitrates)
  - **Phosphorus:** 35-60% removal vs. 70% leaching
- Very Good TSS removal



Source: Page, J.L., R.J. Winston, and W.F. Hunt, III. 2013. *Field Monitoring of Two Soil Cell™ Installations in Wilmington, North Carolina: Preliminary Monitoring Report.*



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

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## Soils beneath suspended pavements: An opportunity for stormwater control and treatment



Jonathan L. Page<sup>\*</sup>, Ryan J. Winston, William F. Hunt III

*Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, North Carolina State University, Box 7625, Raleigh, NC 27695, USA*

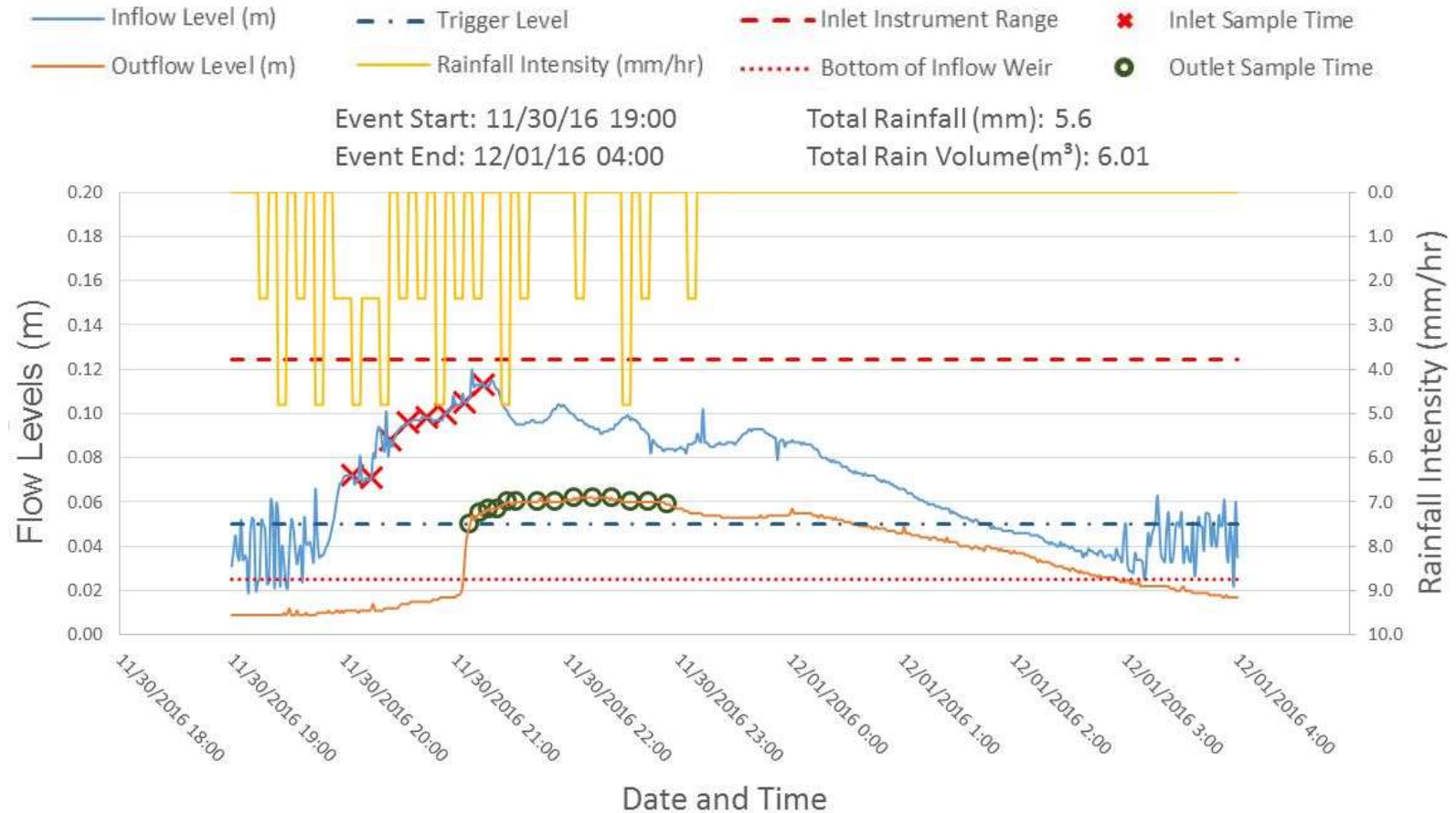
This proof-of-concept study illustrates that the soil–root matrix beneath a suspended pavement system can be used as a stormwater control measure (SCM) to concomitantly achieve water quality, pavement stability and urban forestry goals.



Queensway  
Toronto ON



# Queensway- Volume Typical Storm

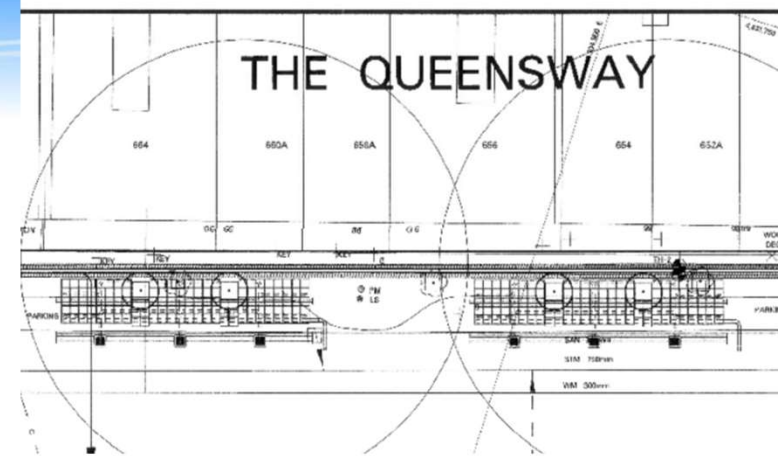


# Water Quality: Queensway Toronto, ON

## Water Quality Improvement

### November 2, 2016 Sample

Parameter	Influent (mg/L)	Effluent (mg/L)	Percent Reduction
Aluminium	0.853	0.138	<b>83.8%</b>
Arsenic	0.000654	0.000287	<b>56.1%</b>
BOD	63.00	18	<b>71.4%</b>
Chloride	25.9	21.5	<b>17.0%</b>
Chromium	0.0079	0.00166	<b>79.0%</b>
Copper	0.0302	0.0144	<b>52.3%</b>
Iron	2.43	0.287	<b>88.2%</b>
Lead	0.00584	0.00064	<b>89.0%</b>
Manganese	0.175	0.013	<b>92.6%</b>
Nickel	0.00383	0.00316	<b>17.5%</b>
Potassium	8.59	4.47	<b>48.0%</b>
Total Phosphorus	0.607	0.082	<b>86.5%</b>
Total Suspended Solids	58	2	<b>96.6%</b>
Zinc	0.106	0.025	<b>76.4%</b>



2014





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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoleng](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoleng)



## Suspended pavement systems as opportunities for subsurface bioretention

R. Andrew Tirpak<sup>a,\*</sup>, Jon M. Hathaway<sup>a</sup>, Jennifer A. Franklin<sup>b</sup>, Eric Kuehler<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Tennessee, 325 John D. Tickle Building, 851 Neyland Dr., Knoxville, TN 37996, USA

<sup>b</sup> Dept. of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, University of Tennessee, 134 Plant Biotechnology Building, 2341 Joe Johnson Dr., Knoxville, TN 37996, USA

<sup>c</sup> USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station, 320 Green St., Athens, GA 30602, USA

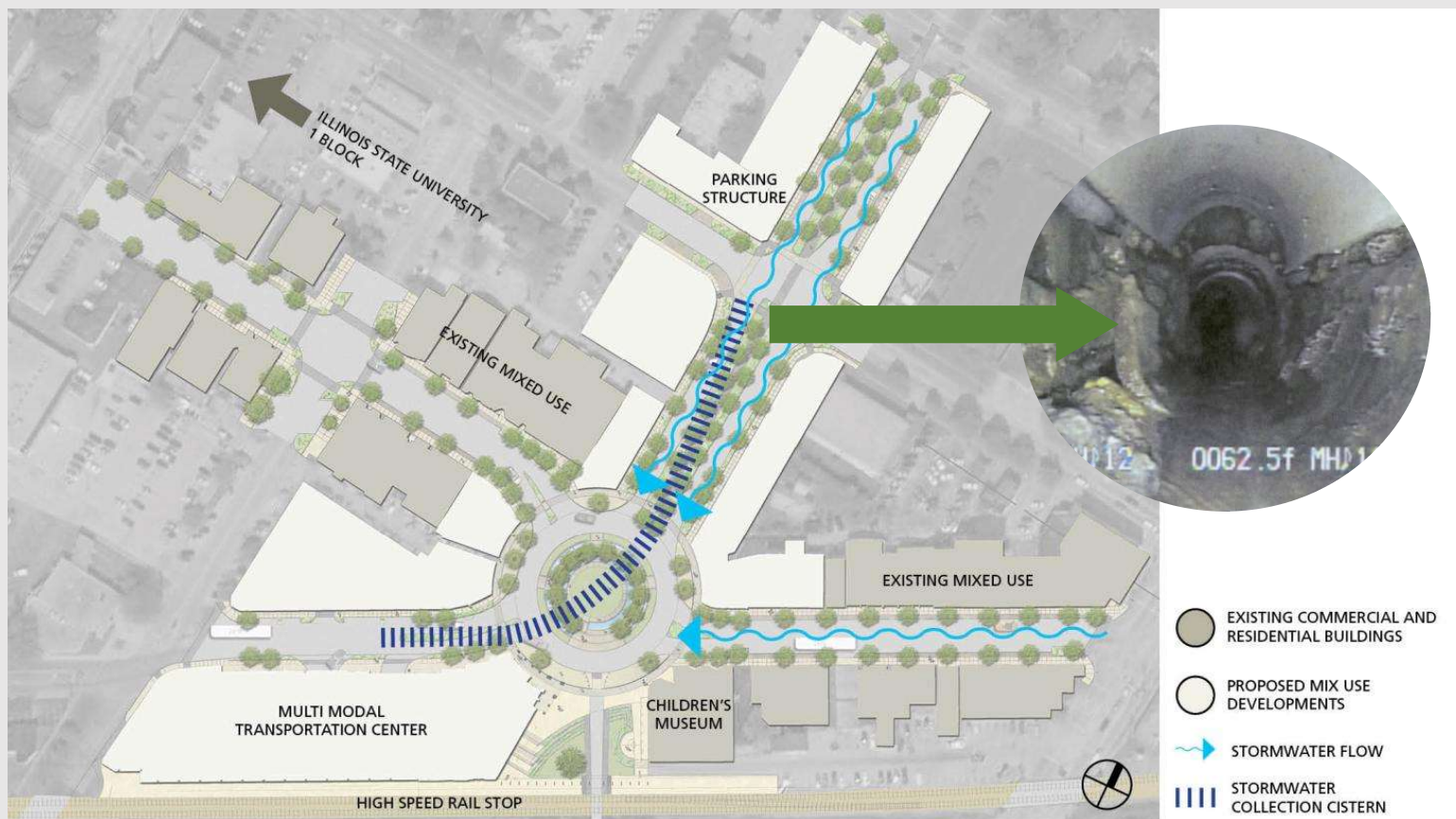


This study demonstrates the viability of field-scale suspended pavement systems in a stormwater management application and illustrates the hydrologic and pollutant removal capabilities of these systems to manage urban stormwater runoff.

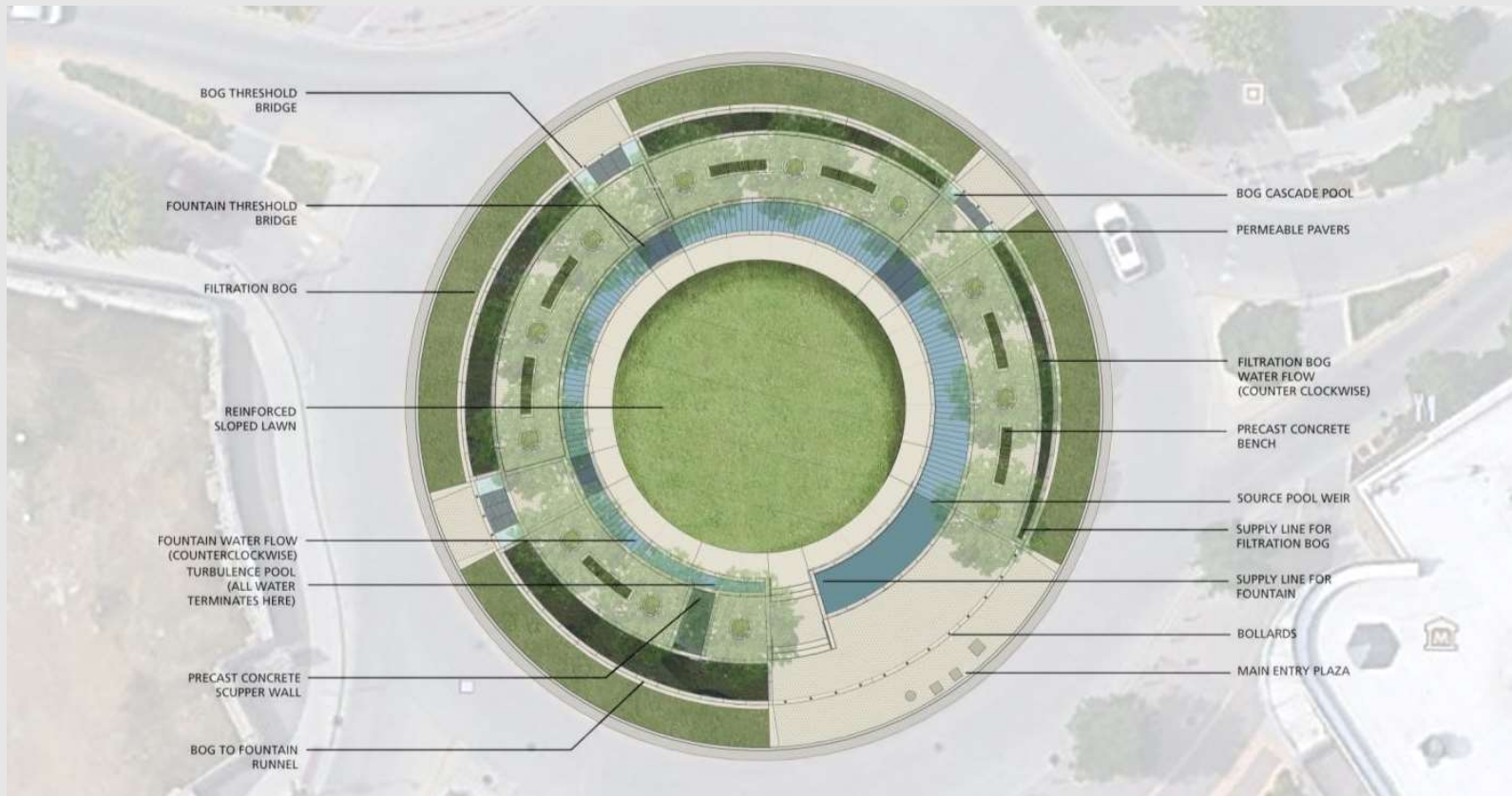
# Signature SW Project Uptown Normal IL

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# Uptown Normal Redevelopment



# The Circle



# Uptown Normal, IL



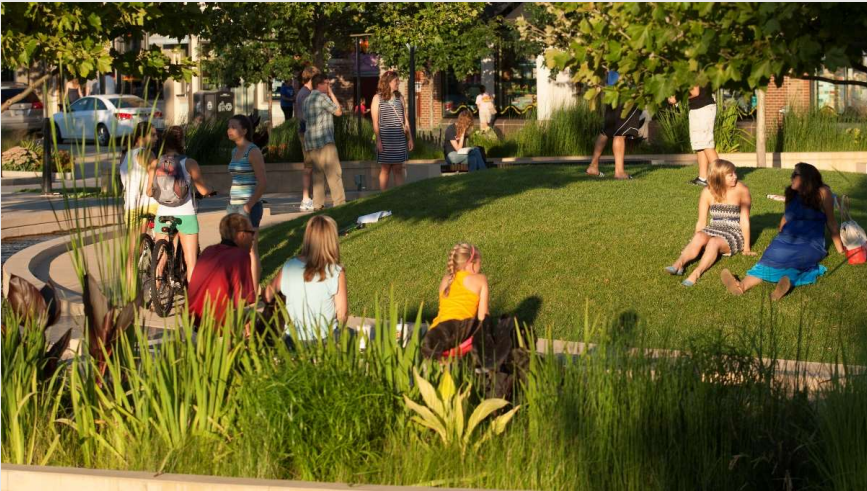
2010



2017







# Uptown Normal, IL 2010-2015



# Uptown Normal, IL



2010

2010

2017



2017





# Thank you!

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Albert L. Key, Jr Aff. M. ASCE

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