

524 N 81st St
(Beyond Dayton Ave N & N 81st St)



Categories entered: Planting Strip
Volunteers: Kelly Carter Mortimer
Year Built: n/a
Years: 5
Size: ~ 25 feet

Description: It is two mounded beds separated by a rock path. Kelly's goal was to make it look a little like a mountain meadow and rock garden. It requires very little energy to maintain other than pulling clover, grass, dandelion and other weeds in the path and mowing the tiny lawn. It is very drought tolerant. Neighbors really enjoy the texture, contrasts, and the way the different colors play off of each other including the many colors of green. Kelly only uses compost as fertilizer and elbow grease as weed control.

2004 Plant List: Fraxinus-raywood, Narcissus-thalia, Helianthum, Digitalis, dwarf golden spruce, dwarf thuja, Erica, Dierama, Chondropetalum, Geum, Sagina subulata, Rudbeckia, Ajuga, Mexican Hair Grass, Varigated Sage, Chasmanthium latifolium-oat grass, Carex comans-frosted curls, Crocosmia, Aquilegia, Anaphalis, Daphne, Spanish Lavendar, Tam Juniper, Gaillardia, Salal, Creeping Thyme, Baby Tears

SDOT observations: Most houses along this stretch have gardens in the planting strip. There is a 3 foot tall conifer in the inset picture. Although the plantings help to soften the edges of the sidewalk, they should be kept pruned back enough to allow for a wheel chair to easily pass by.

Mulched: Uses compost