

Cal Anderson Park – Tree Planting Landmarks Preservation Board

David Graves, Strategic Advisor | February 19, 2026



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Healthy People, **Thriving Environment**, **Vibrant Community**

#SeattleShines



Overall Site Context

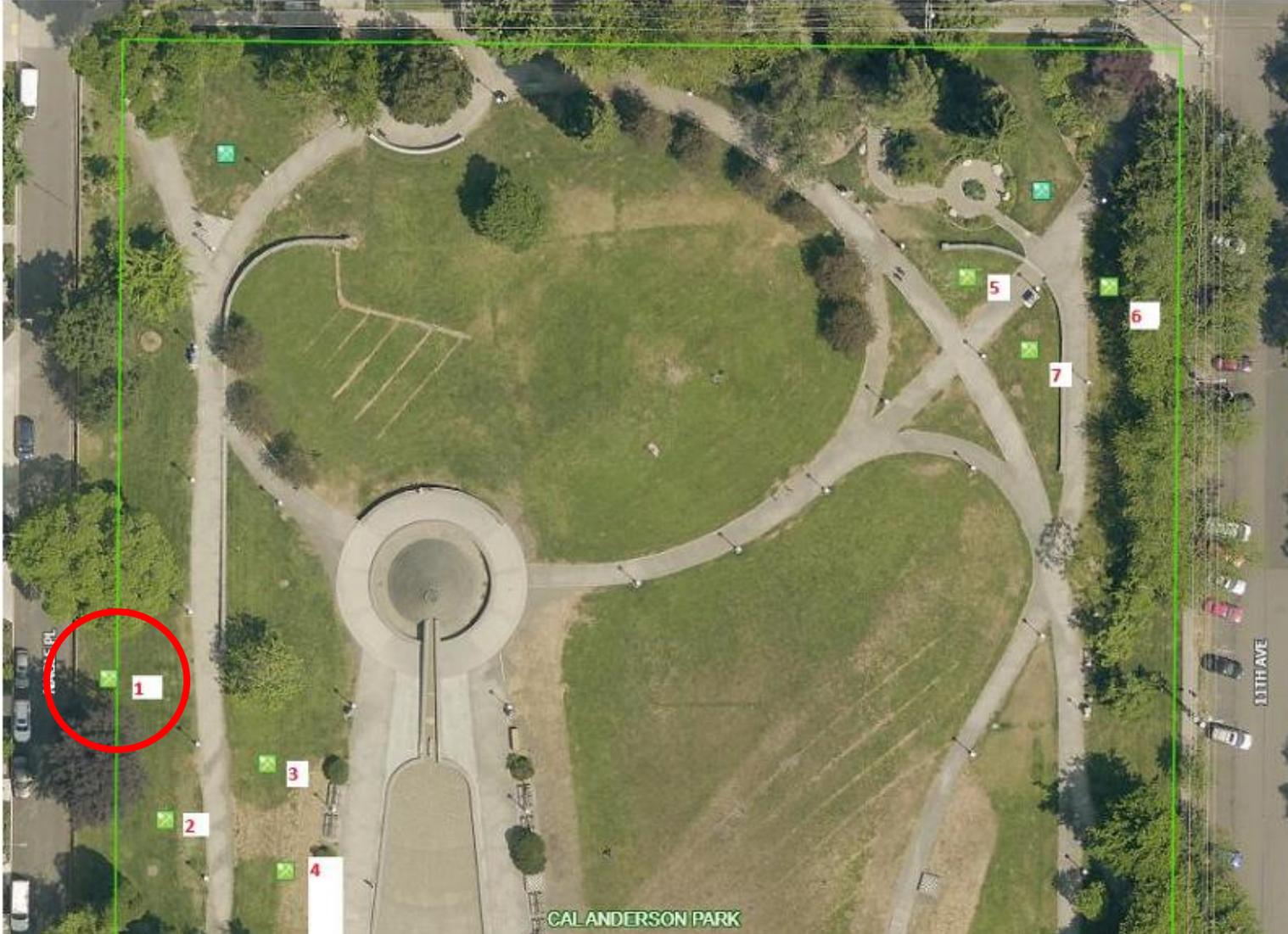


1 of 15 | Cal Anderson Park is seen from the air looking westward on Feb. 28 in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. (Ken Lambert / The Seattle Times)

Tree Planting Plan

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) is proposing to plant two (2) trees at Cal Anderson Park. The following planting plans show the two locations. SPR originally presented a proposal for seven (7) trees to Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) however only two of the locations were approved by SPU. The remaining five trees/locations were not approved due to the presence of underground infrastructure associated with the subsurface reservoir owned and managed by SPU. All of these trees will be roughly 2” Diameter at Standard Height (DSH).

Cal Anderson Park (Lincoln Reservoir/Park) Tree Planting Plan – Tree 1



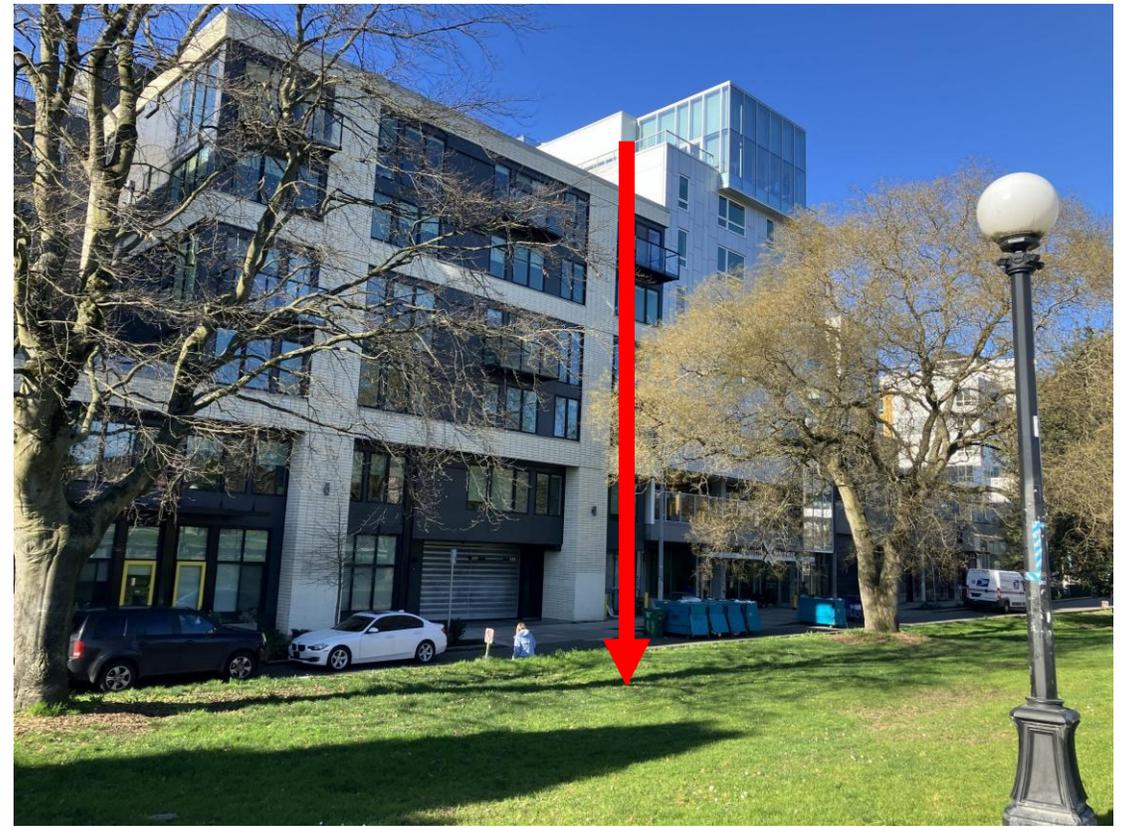
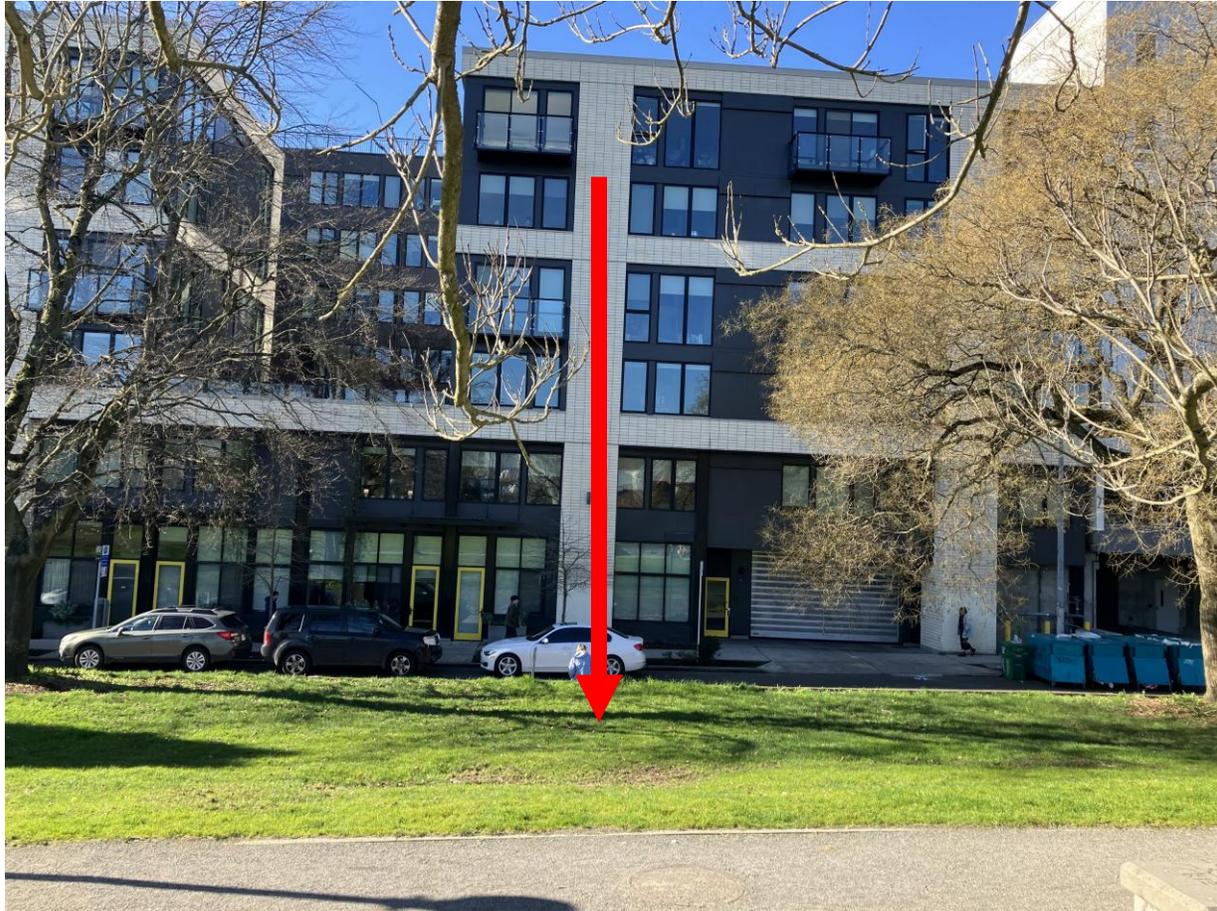
Tree Selection

- Tree No. 1: Garry Oak (*Quercus garryana*) – A deciduous tree, 40-90 ft tall at maturity, with a broad spreading, rounded crown, rugged, heavy ascending, crooked branches, often shrubby when young (less than 25 years).
 - The planting location is within 70 feet of 4 trees that were removed because they were dead. 2 maples, 1 ash and 1 dove tree.
 - Garry oak was selected for being native, deciduous (similar to surrounding trees and the trees removed), and higher drought tolerance than the trees that died and were removed.
- Tree No. 2: Princeton Sentry Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba* 'Princeton Sentry') – A deciduous male cultivar known for its narrow, upright, and conical shape, making it an ideal choice for urban environments, tight spaces, and street-side planting. It grows 40–50 feet tall and 15–20 feet wide, featuring bright green fan-shaped leaves that turn a uniform golden yellow in the autumn.
 - The planting location is within 70 feet of 6 trees that were removed because they were dying or suffered a major failure resulting in removal. 3 pines, 3 tupelo trees.
 - The Ginkgo is extremely hardy; highly tolerant of urban pollution, compacted soils, and salt. It is a very attractive tree with good fall color and good resilience to the conditions that led to the demise of the previous trees. It has a vertical growth habit so that it will be less likely to compete with the maple street trees bordering the park. The ginkgo would add an ancient species to the arboretum-like collection at Cal Anderson Park.

Tree No. 1: Garry Oak



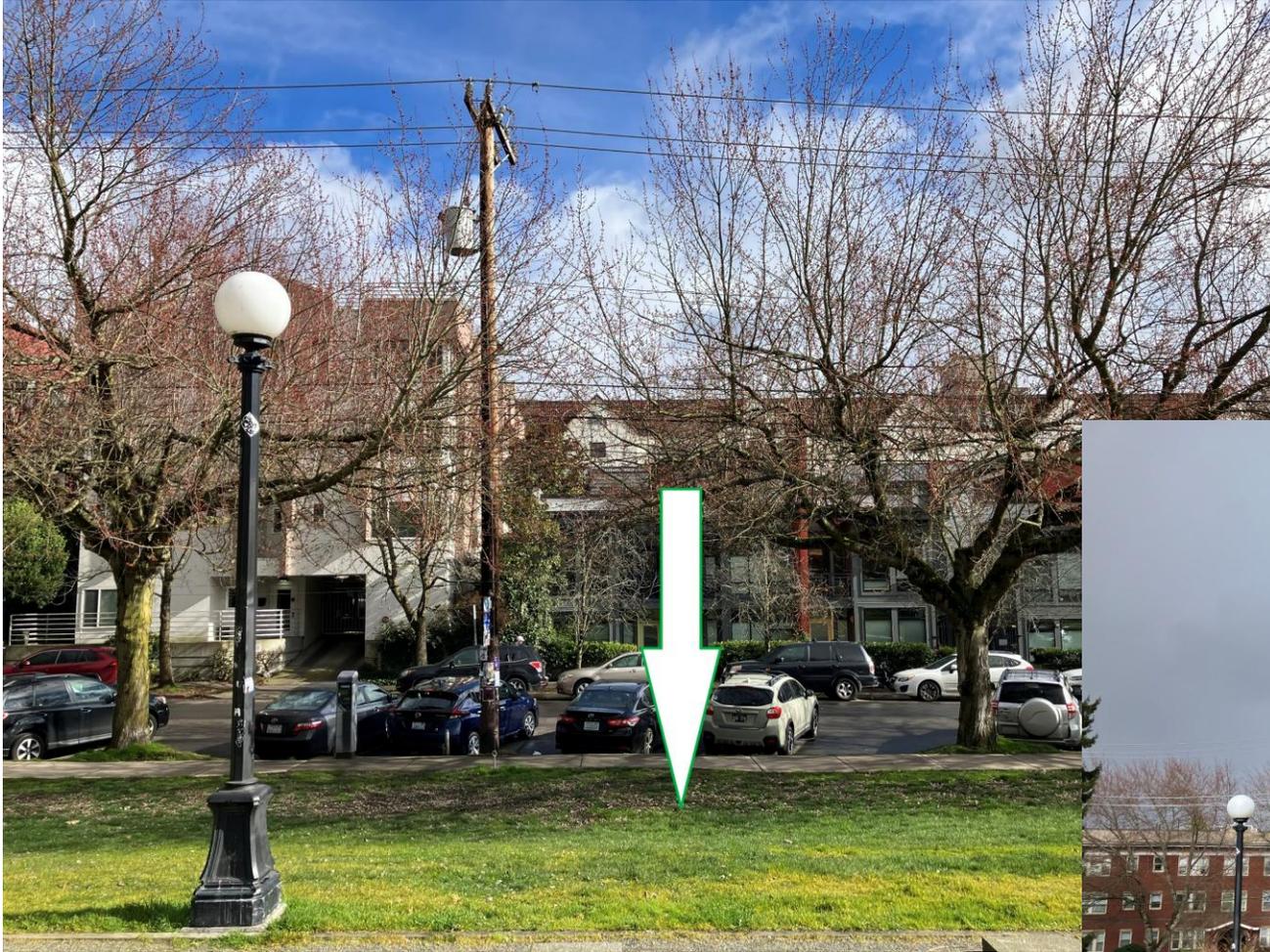
Tree No. 1 Location



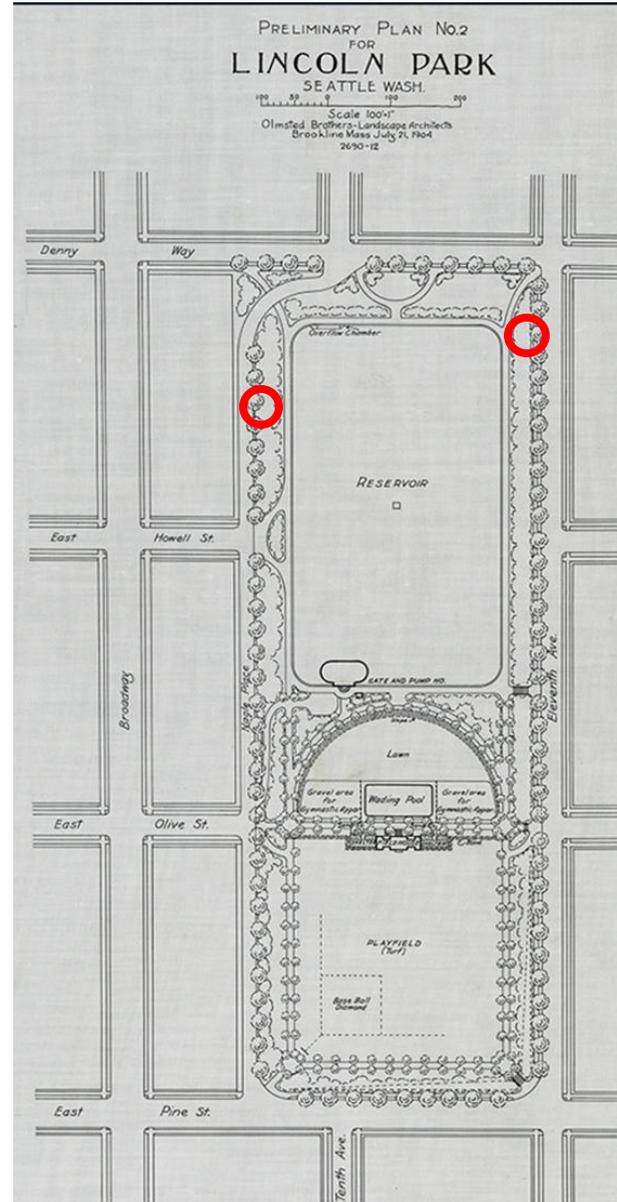
Tree No. 2: Ginkgo



Tree No. 2 Location



Original Olmsted Plan



Red Circles indicate approximate proposed tree locations



Cal Anderson Park: Nagle Place Table Maintenance

Steph Hammer, Sr. Landscape Architect

David Graves, Strategic Advisor

Kat Harvey, Landscape Architecture Intern



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Memo

Date: 12/2/2025

To: Historic Preservation Certificate of Approval Board

From: Steph Hammer, Senior Landscape Architect

Subject: Cal Anderson Park – Nagle Place Table Maintenance

To whom it may concern:

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) respectfully submits this request for a Certificate of Approval for the removal of a damaged concrete picnic table located along Nagle Place at Cal Anderson Park, a designated City of Seattle landmark.

The picnic table is situated on a concrete pad entirely within the critical root zone of a mature Hedge Maple tree (*Acer campestre*), which has a diameter at standard height (DSH) of 24 inches. The base of the tree trunk is approximately 11 inches from the edge of the concrete pad. Over time, root growth has caused the concrete pad to crack and lift, creating both a safety hazard and ongoing maintenance concerns.

In addition to the root-related damage, the table itself is in poor condition. It has been heavily vandalized, resulting in the removal of the wood tabletop and seats. The remaining concrete base is also deteriorated and no longer suitable for public use.

The current location of the table also presents accessibility challenges. It is not ADA-compliant and is located near a steep drop-off to Nagle Place, which further limits safe and inclusive access for park users.

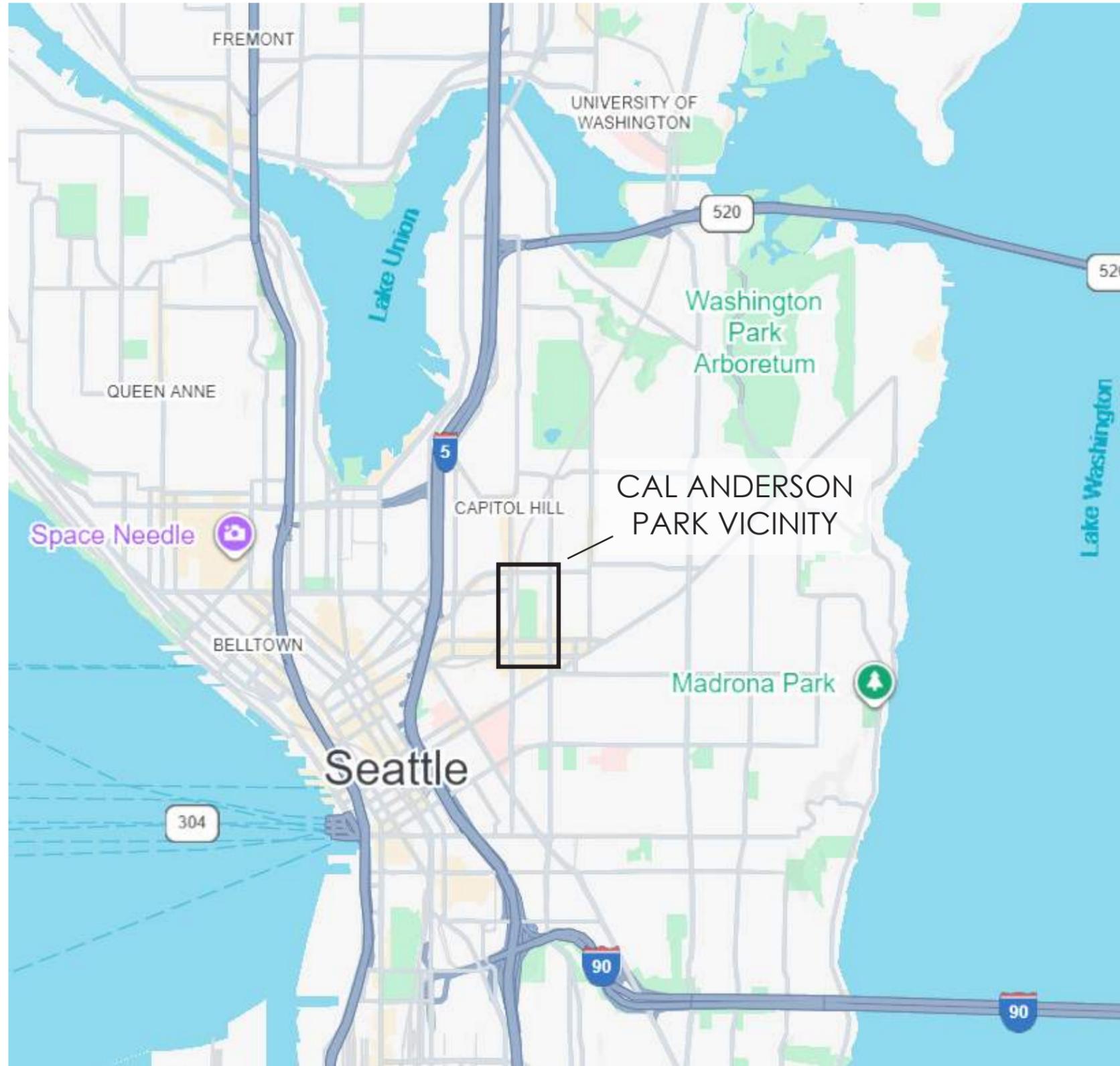
Rather than refurbishing the table in its current location, SPR proposes to remove the table and concrete pad entirely and restore the surrounding landscape to better support the health of the existing tree. This approach aligns with our commitment to tree preservation, sustainable park stewardship, and improving accessibility and safety in public spaces.

We appreciate the Board's consideration of this request and welcome any questions or feedback.

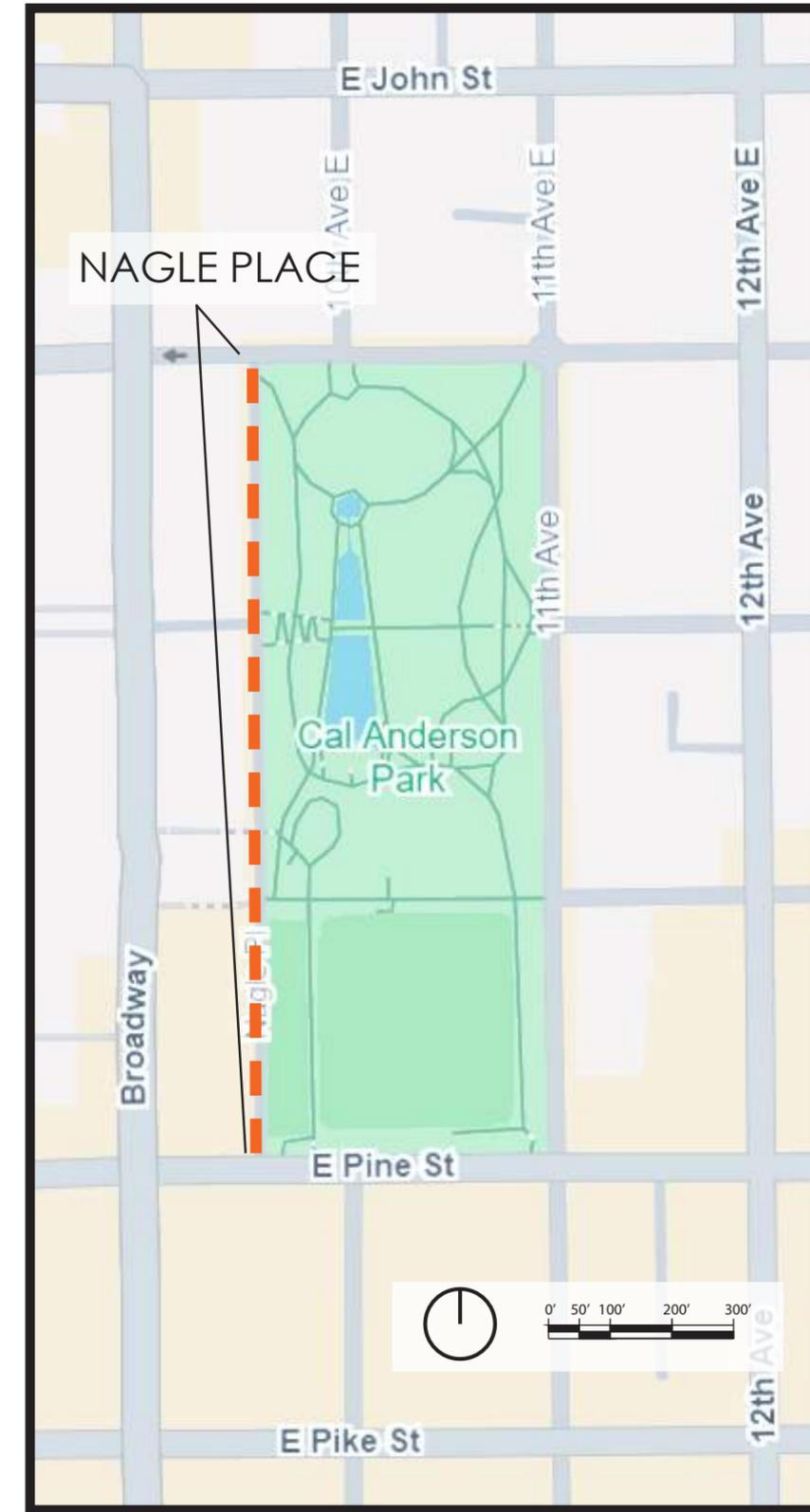
Sincerely,

Steph Hammer
Senior Landscape Architect
Seattle Parks & Recreation

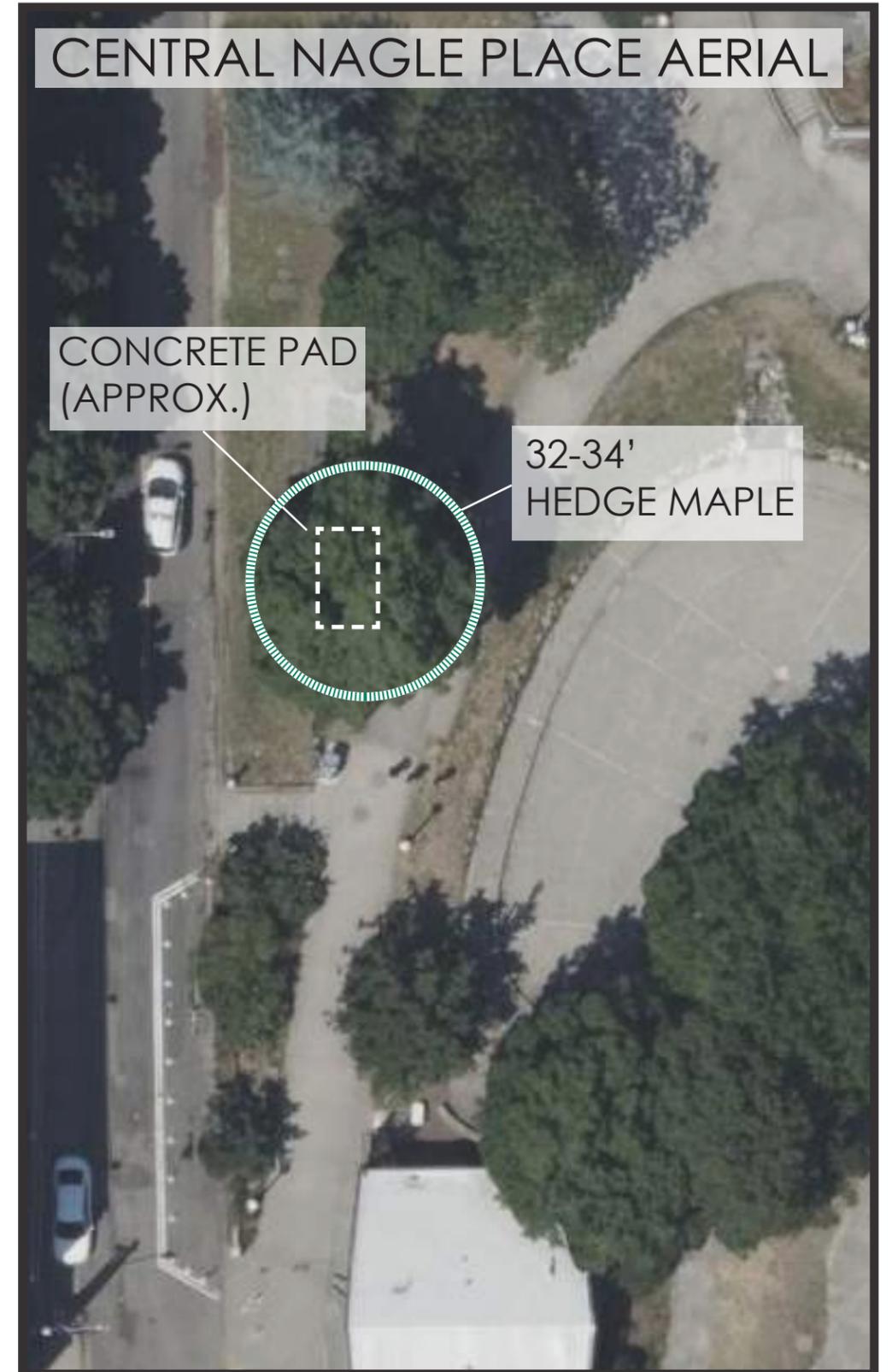
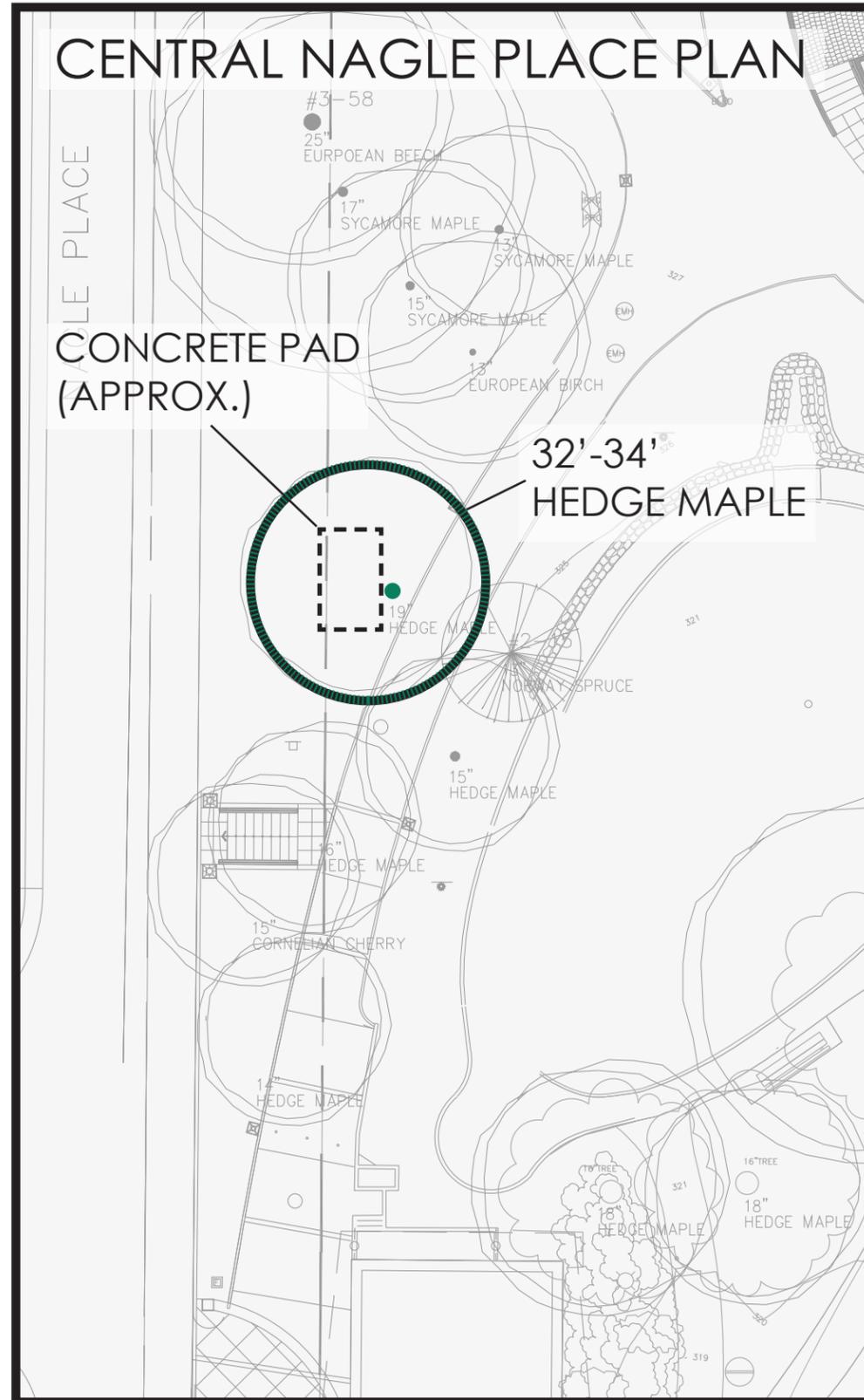
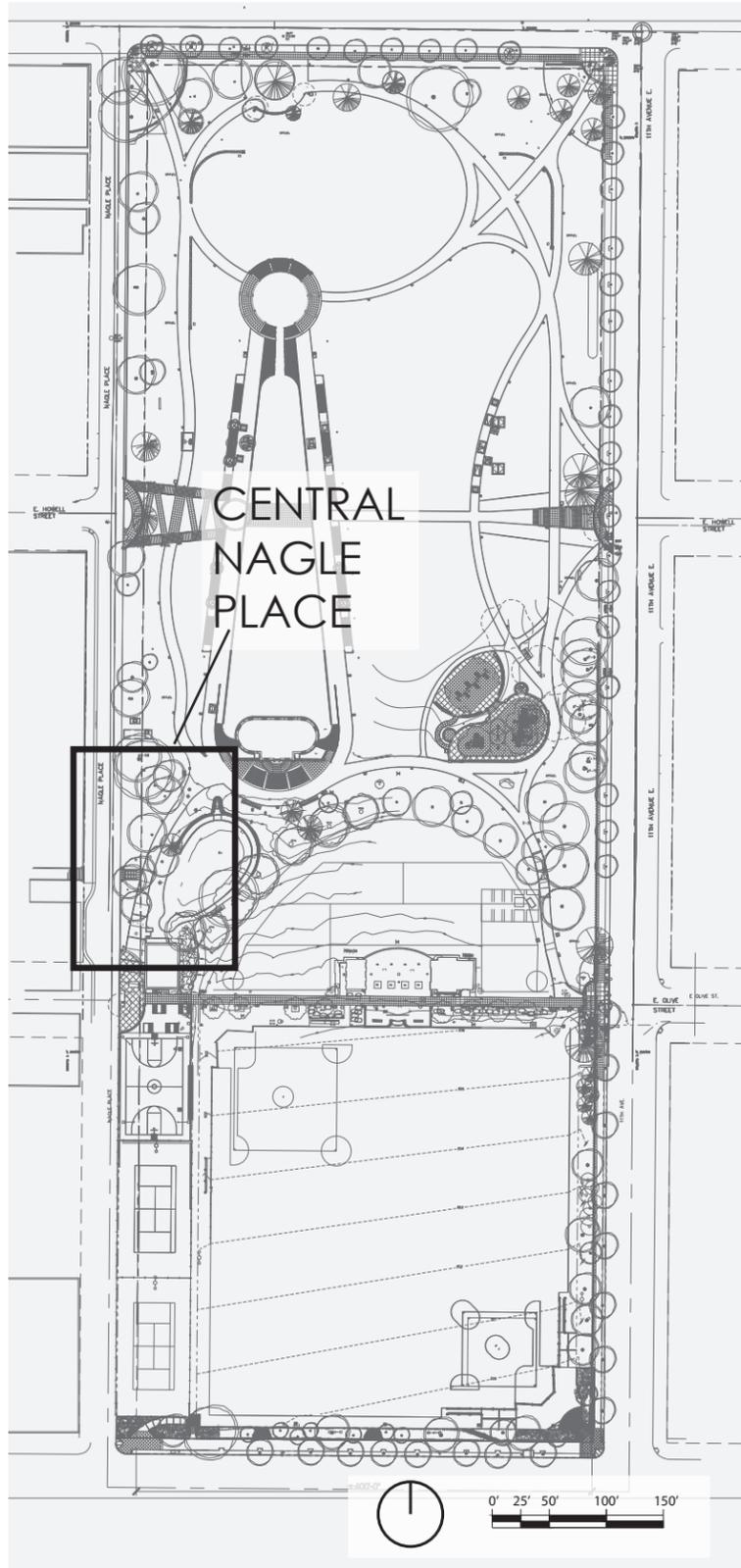
LOCATION OF CAL ANDERSON PARK + NAGLE PLACE



Graphics courtesy of Google Maps



SITE PLAN + LOCATION OF NAGLE PLACE TABLE



Plan graphics courtesy of Young Architecture, 2018

Aerial Image courtesy of Microsoft Bing

CONDITION OF TABLE PRIOR TO WOOD REMOVAL



Image courtesy of Google Earth, 2014



Image courtesy of Google Earth, 2024

CONDITION OF TABLE PRIOR TO WOOD REMOVAL



Image courtesy of Google Earth Street View, 2017



Image taken prior to April 2025

CONDITION OF TABLE TODAY



Image taken 04/02/2025

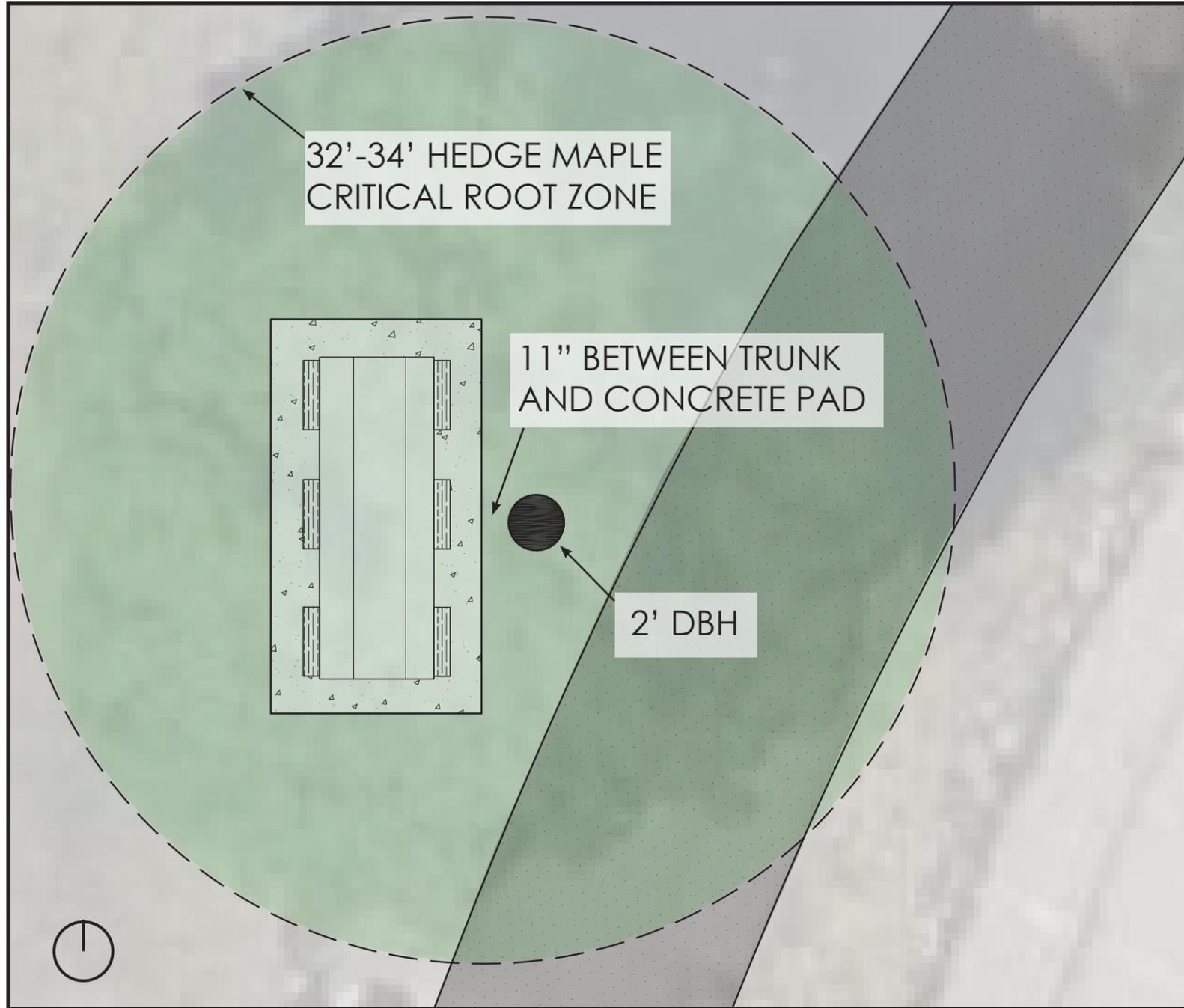


Image taken 08/13/2025

CONDITION OF TABLE TODAY

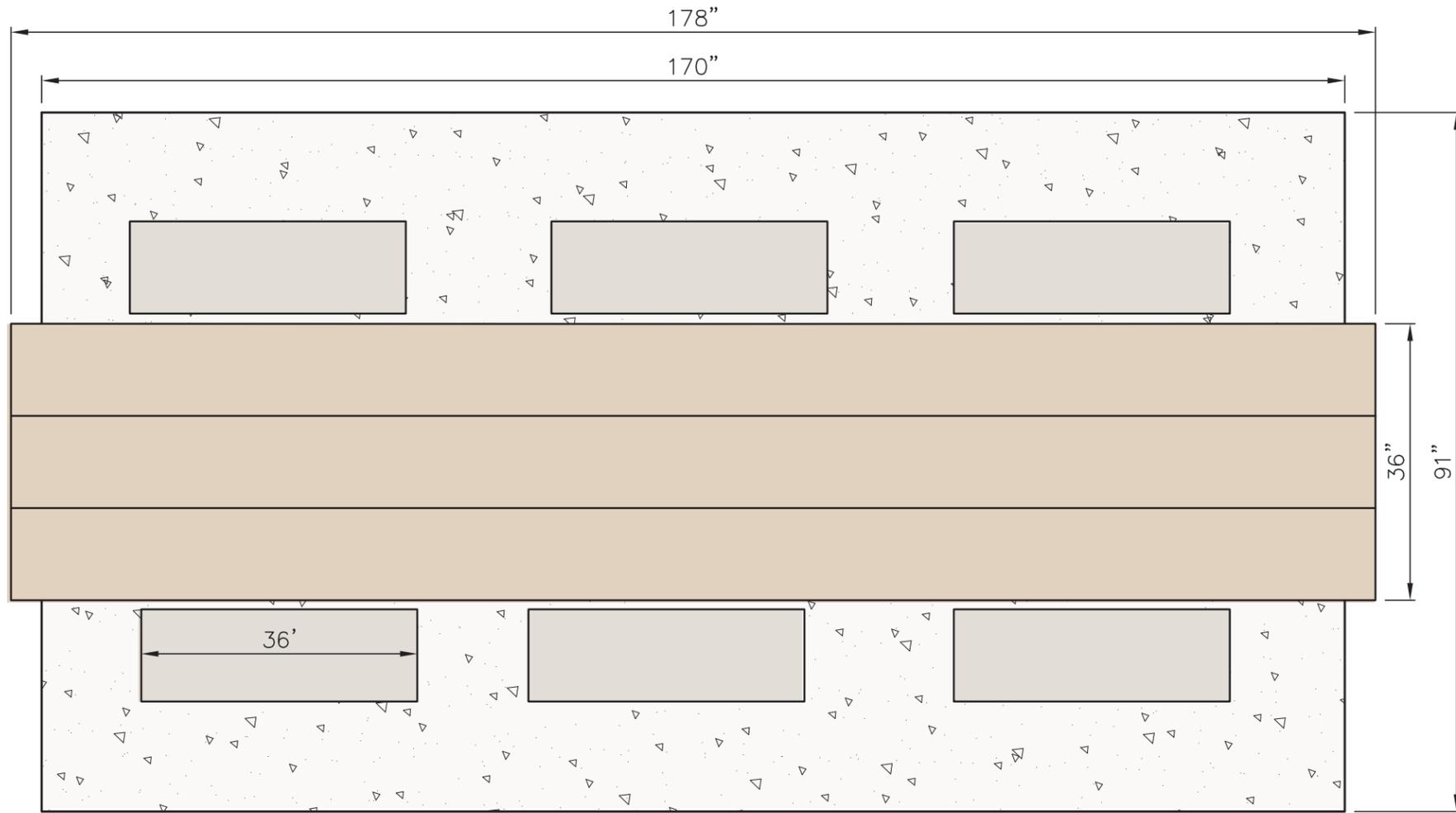


CONDITION OF TABLE TODAY

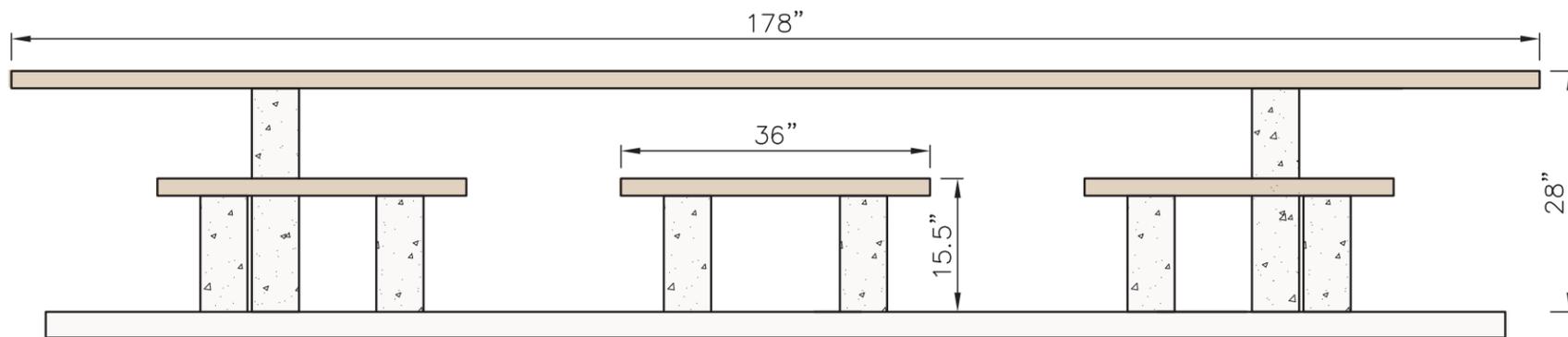


CONCRETE PAD IS LOCATED ENTIRELY WITHIN THE CRITICAL ROOT ZONE OF THE MAPLE.
THE BASE OF TRUNK IS 11" FROM EDGE OF CONCRETE PAD.
THE TREE ROOTS HAVE CAUSED THE CONCRETE PAD TO CRACK AND LIFT.

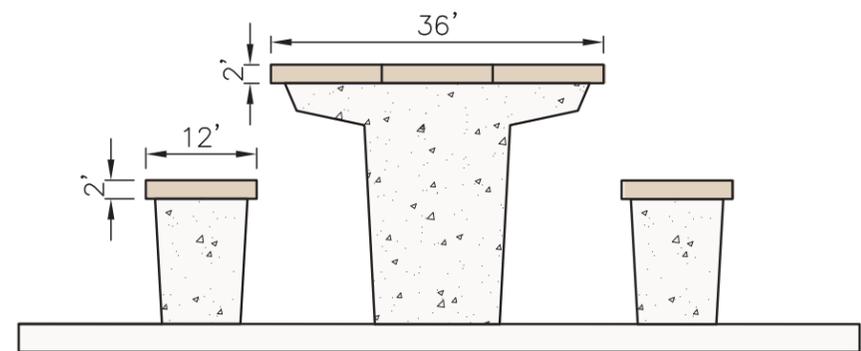
CONCRETE PAD + TABLE MEASUREMENTS



PLAN VIEW

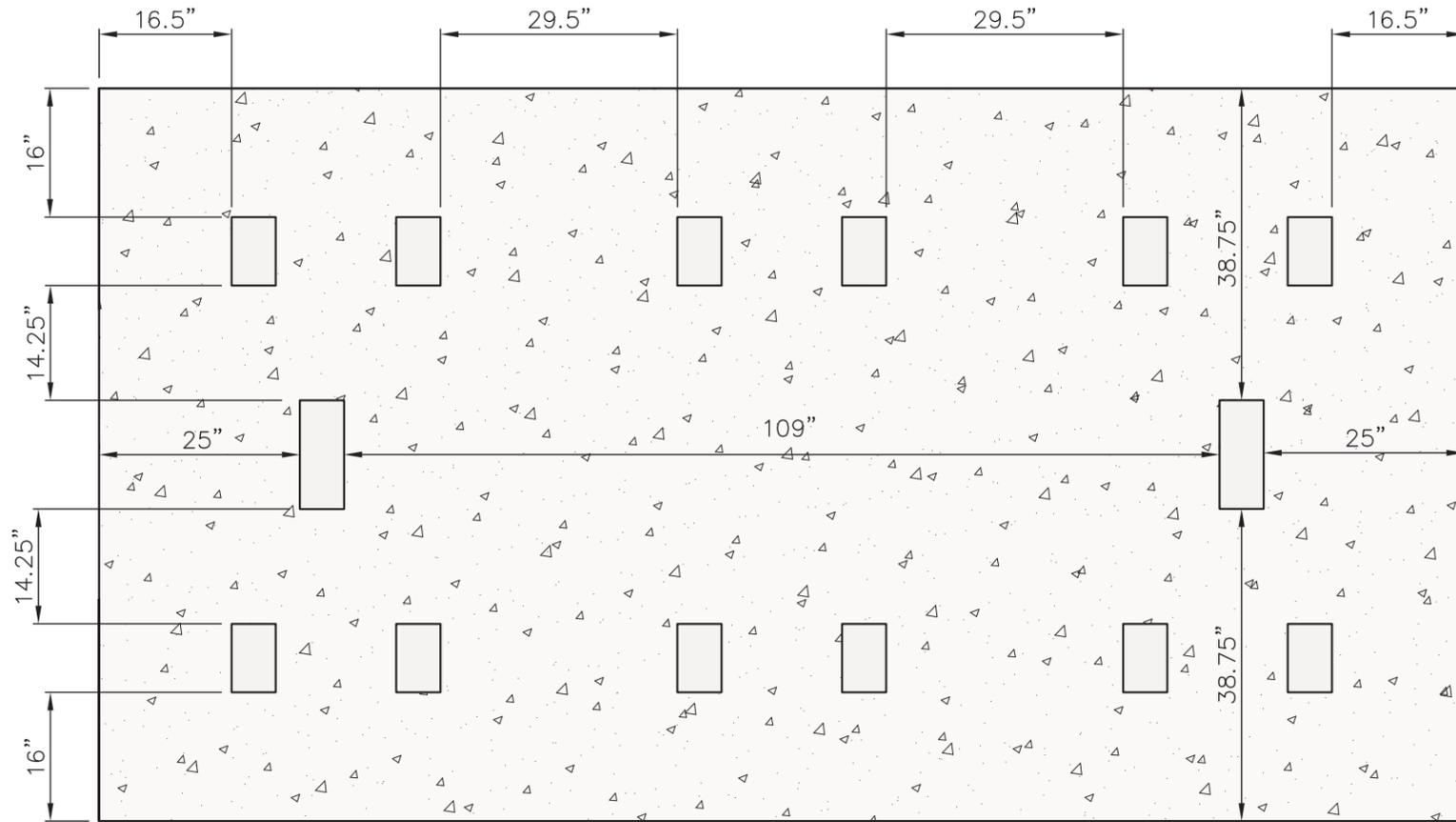


SIDE VIEW

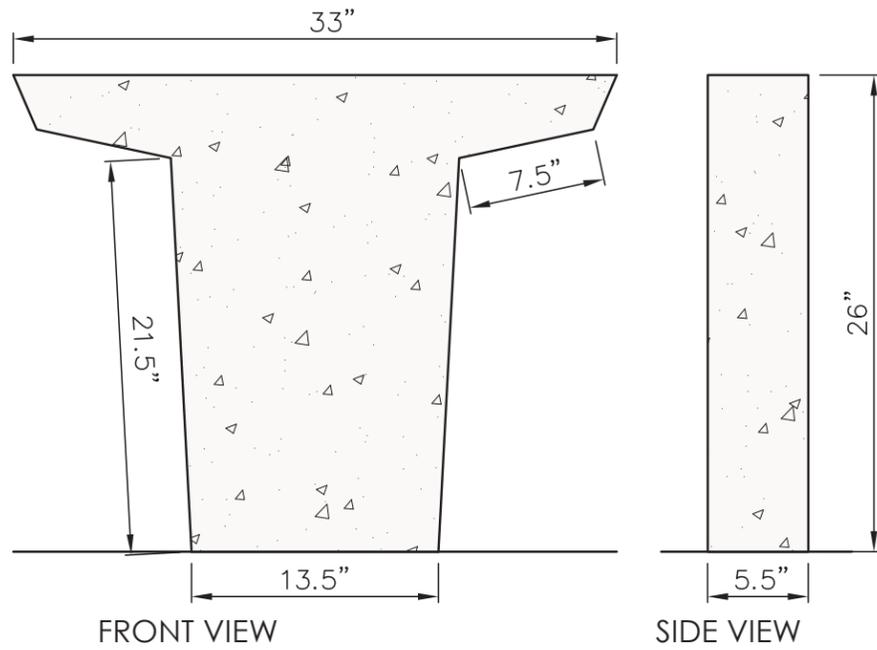


FRONT VIEW

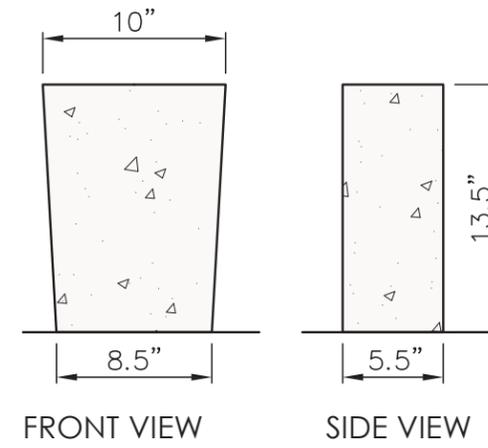
CONCRETE SUPPORT PLACEMENTS



PLAN VIEW



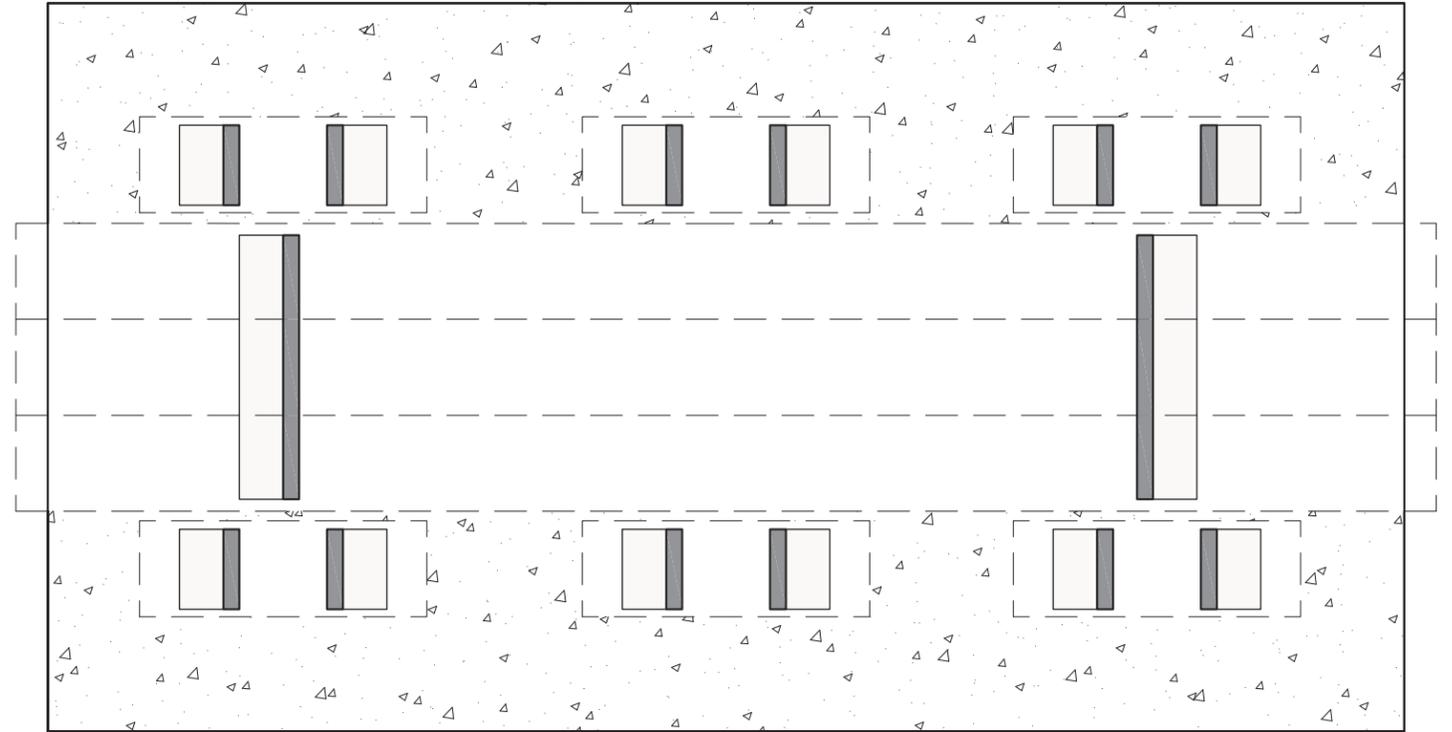
CONCRETE TABLE SUPPORTS (X2)



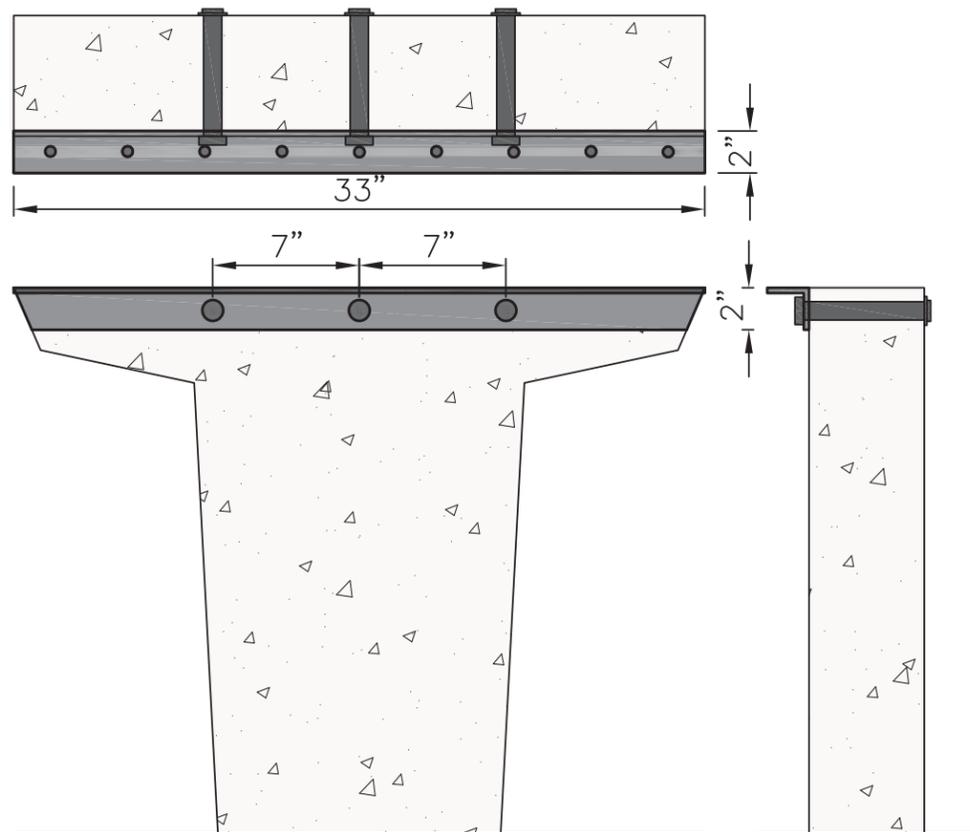
CONCRETE SEAT SUPPORTS (X12)

TABLE HARDWARE- ANGLES + FASTENERS

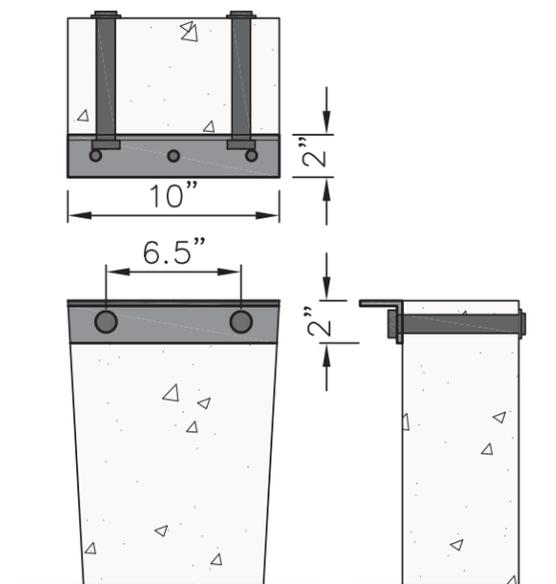
- (12) 2" X 2" X 1/4" X 10" ANGLE
- (2) 2" X 2" X 1/4" X 33" ANGLE
- (30) 1/2" X 6" HEADED ANCHOR BOLT, CONCRETE SLEEVE



⊖ PLACEMENT OF ANGLES ON SUPPORTS



CONCRETE TABLE SUPPORTS (X2)



CONCRETE SEAT SUPPORTS (X12)



Thank you!

