

# UCLA CAMPUS LE CONTE // WESTWOOD ENTRY REDESIGN





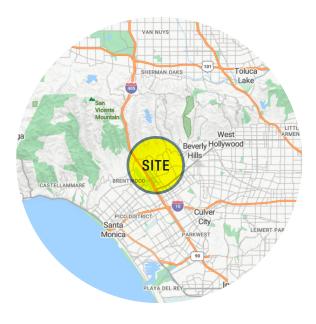
JEN MOODY LD5 // SPRING 2023 PROJECT 3 /// UCLA

#### SITE ANALYSIS: UCLA ENTRANCE, LA CONTE AVE + WESTWOOD BLVD

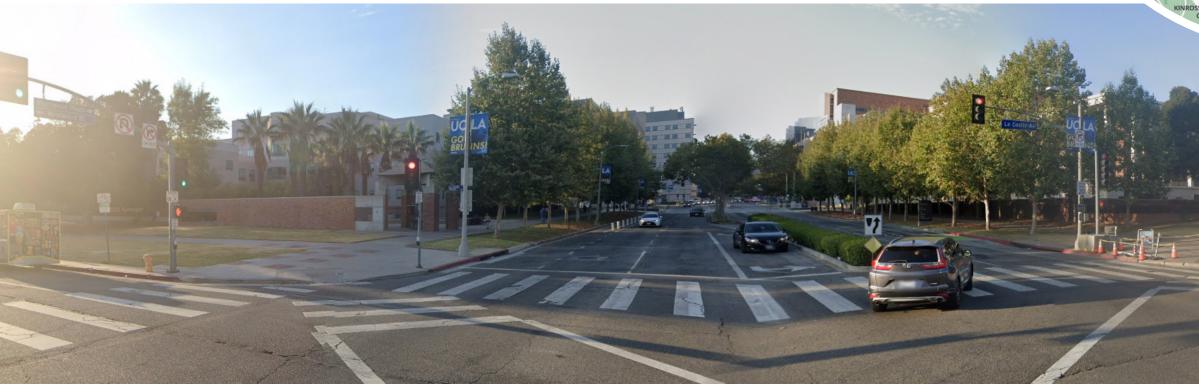
SITE

LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF LE CONTE AND WESTWOOD, THE SITE IS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF CAMPUS AND IS A MAIN ENTERANCE TO UCLA.

SURROUNDED BY UCLA MEDICAL BUILDINGS THERE ARE SEVERAL BUS STOPS ADJACENT TO THE INTERSECTION, BOTH **CREATES AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE VISITORS WHO WOULD** USE THE LOCATION, IF GIVEN A REASON TO STAY.



VIEW OF SITE FROM GOOGLE MAPS STREET VIEW



CHATEAU

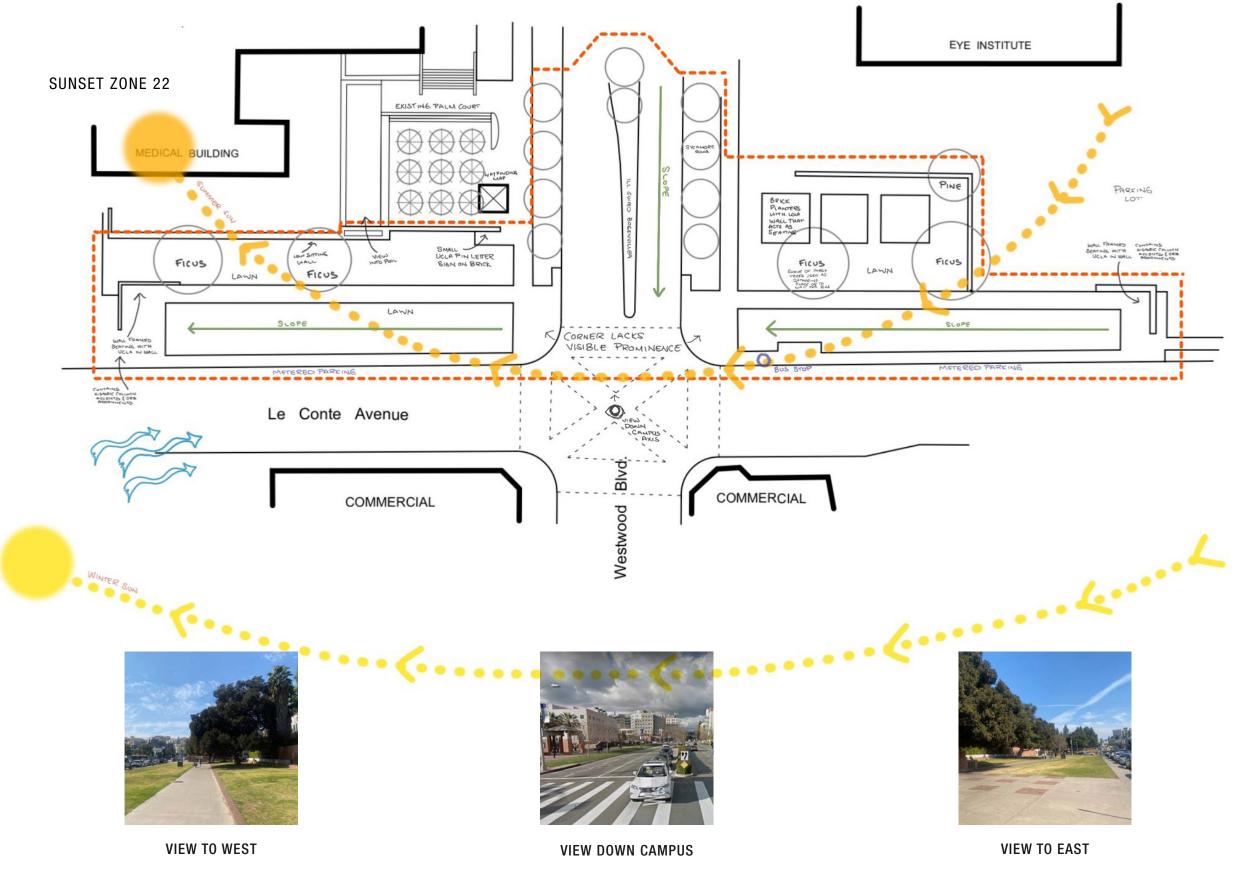
GAYLEY TOWERS

MCOURT TMENTS

BUILDING



## **SITE ANALYSIS:** UCLA ENTRANCE, LA CONTE AVE + WESTWOOD BLVD

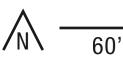


While much of UCLA's architecture is historic, the plantings in this portion are simply dated. Installed at a time when little concern was given to water consumption or creating habitat, the area is currently dominated by turf. This unassuming corner does not feel like an entrance into one of the nation's finest schools and is easily missed as you are driving by the campus. Even for pedestrians there is little indication that you have entered a college campus, other than temporary banners, a dilapidated map of campus, and tiny pin letters on a mass of brick wall that looks quite similar to the rest of the brick walls in the area.

The palm tree patio and pond with a peek-a-boo notch out of the wall are an appreciated point of place making. The palms are icons of Southern California (despite only having one native of our own), especially within the context of Westwood and Beverly Hills neighborhoods. The water feature is completely neglected but could be highlighted if people were drawn to the area.

This underutilized land does not offer much to animals, insects, or humans and instead takes resources that could be used more wisely. Several mature trees do offer excellent shade and habitat. And a row of London Plane trees creates a nice line of sight into campus.

There is much opportunity to make an impact, not only visually but also by making a statement through the plant choices. Creating a landscape in line with the ideals of the institution will speak volumes to campus visitors, even if only subconsciously noticed.



## **HISTORICAL CONTEXT:** UCLA'S LANDSCAPING

Ralph D. Cornell was the supervising landscape architect at UCLA from 1937-72. Early in his career he formed a friendship with noted native plant expert, Theodore Payne, who took him under his wing. The two spent a lifetime pursuing their love of native plants and landscapes.

Cornell has been quoted as saying UCLA should be a

## "college in a garden"

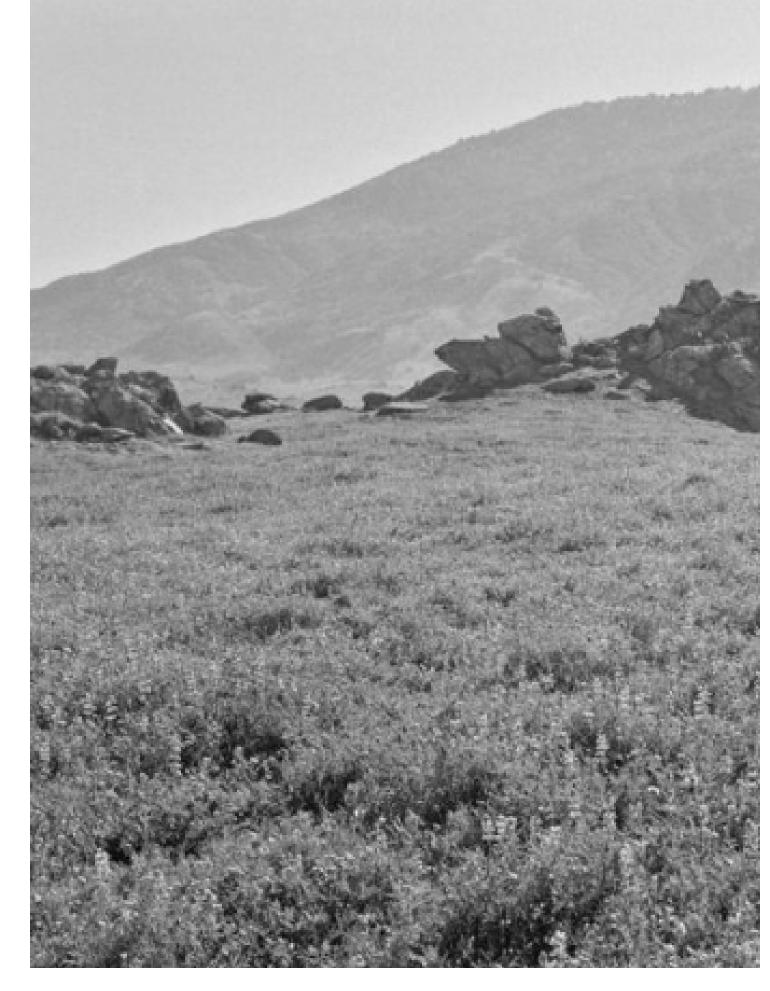
This southern entrance into campus has gone into disrepair and we have an opportunity to carry on the legacy of Cornell, expanding the native plant foot print on campus and turning an unused space into a garden for visitors to enjoy and learn.

The selected plants are primarily from the Southern California region or are adapted to it. They thrive in our climate, create a habitat oasis within the city, and add to the beauty of campus.

> Left to right, clockwise: Photo of Southern California in the 1930's taken by Cornell.

Theodore Payne in 1918, a little before he and Cornell became friends.

> Cornell trekking in Coachella valley in the 1920's.





#### **A NEW CAMPUS ENTRANCE:** SKETCHES + INSPIRATION





HONEY MESQUITE PROVIDE VISUAL PRESENCE AND SEASONAL INTEREST



LARGE AGAVE ECHO THE SHAPES OF THE PALM TREES AND SUBTLY ADD BLUE TONES



LARGE LETTERS NEAR THE STREET CREATE RECOGNIZABLE ENTRANCE



NATIVE PLANTS FRAME THE ENTRANCE, LIKE THESE FUCHSIA WHICH PROVIDE COLOR IN LATE SUMMER



**MEXICAN FENCE POST** CACTUS DRAW THE EYE AND FRAME THE SPACE





A LARGE, MODERN SCULPTURE SURROUNDED BY BUCKWHEAT AND GRASSES FURTHER SIGNIFIES PROMINENCE



SAGES LINE THE WALK, THEIR LONG STEMS ADDING INTEREST IN THE SPRING INTO SUMMER





A BIOSWALE REPLACES WHAT WAS ONCE JUST TURF UNDER THE SYCAMORES AND RETAINS NEEDED WATER



ADDITIONAL BRICK WALLS WITH WOODEN BENCHES DEFINE GATHERING SPACES AND ARE SOFTENED BY NATIVE PLANTS



DG PATHS AND OPENINGS CREATE INFORMAL GATHERING AREAS, DEFINED BY GRASSES AND BOULDERS AT THE EDGES



A MIXTURE OF TEXTURES, PLANTS LIKE THE CHAPARRAL YUCCA ADD YEAR ROUND STRUCTURE AND SEASONAL INTEREST



A FIELD OF GRASSES BORDER THE TREES AND GATHERING SPACES, WITH WHITE GAURA FLOWING IN THE WIND



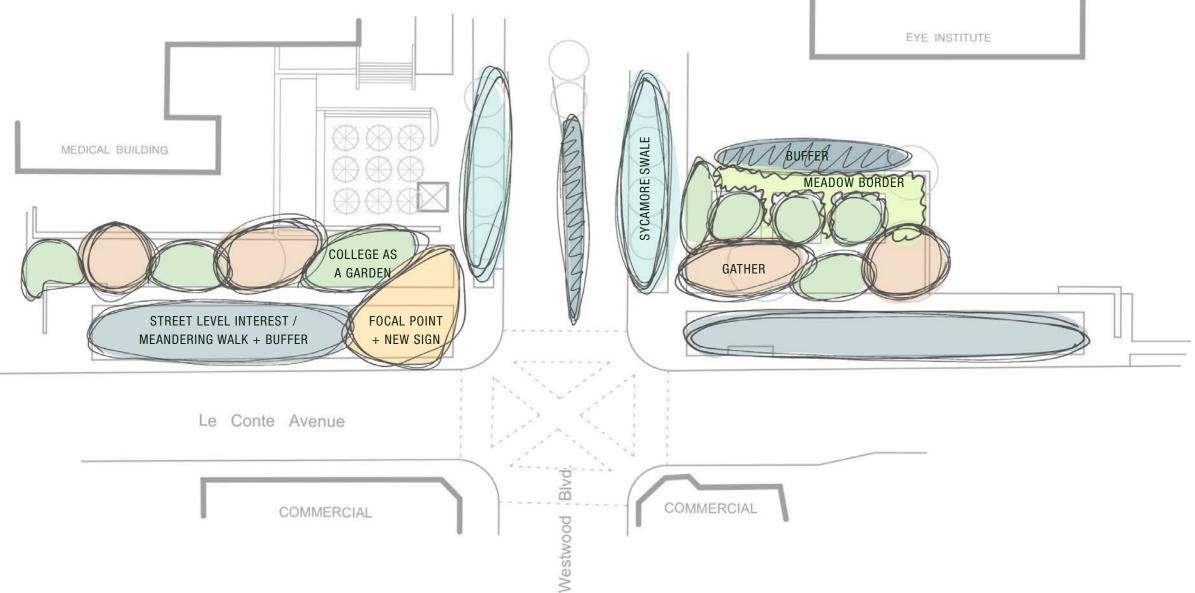


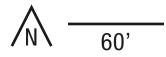
NEAR THE STREET, LARGE NATIVES ARE UNFUSSY AND SPACED FAR ENOUGH APART FOR SAFE SIGHT LINES



REDBUDS, GRASSES, AND YARROWS ARE CLOSEST TO THE BIOSWALE THAT MEANDERS THROUGH

#### **PLANTING CONCEPT:** PRIMARY ZONES

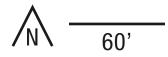




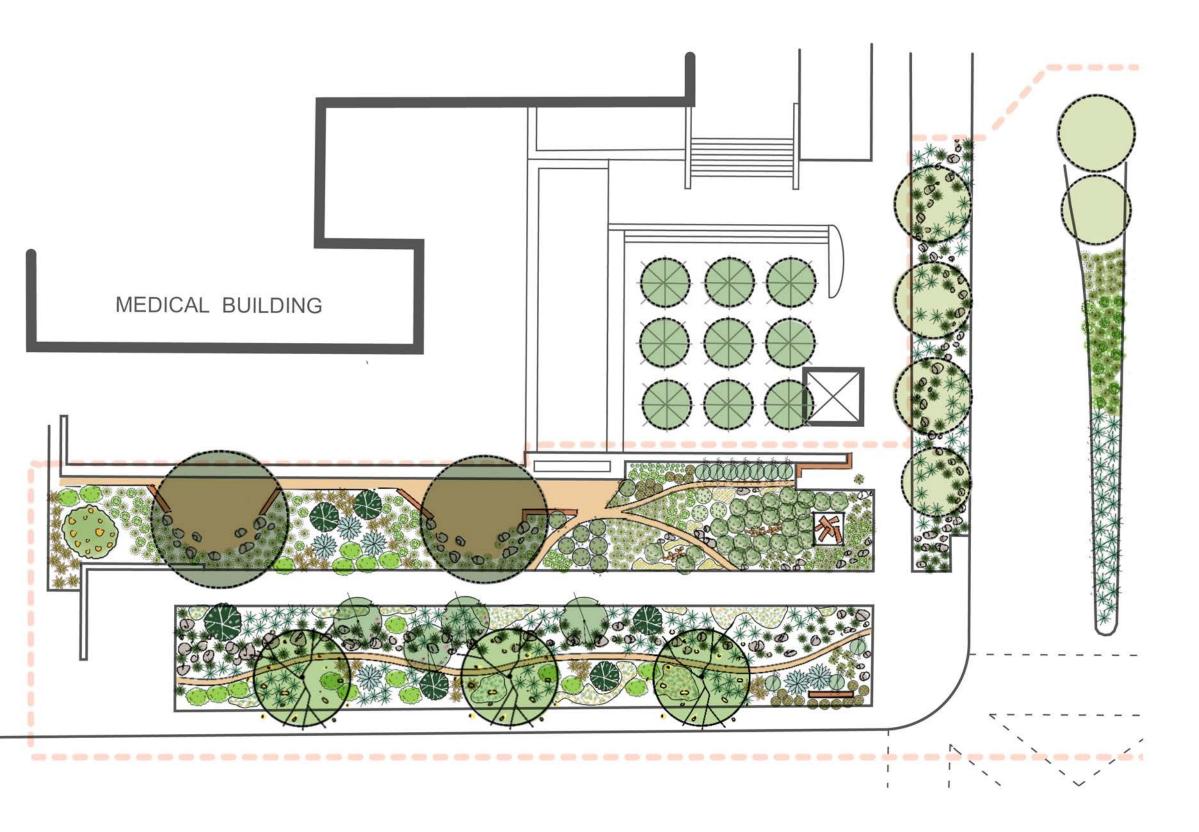
## **PLANTING PLAN:** OVERALL PROJECT

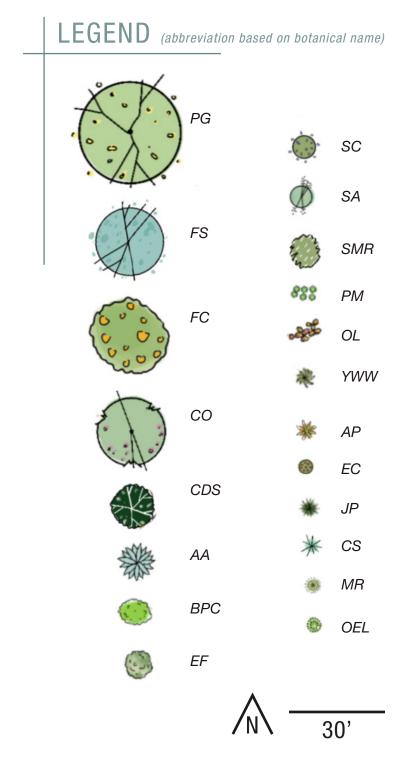




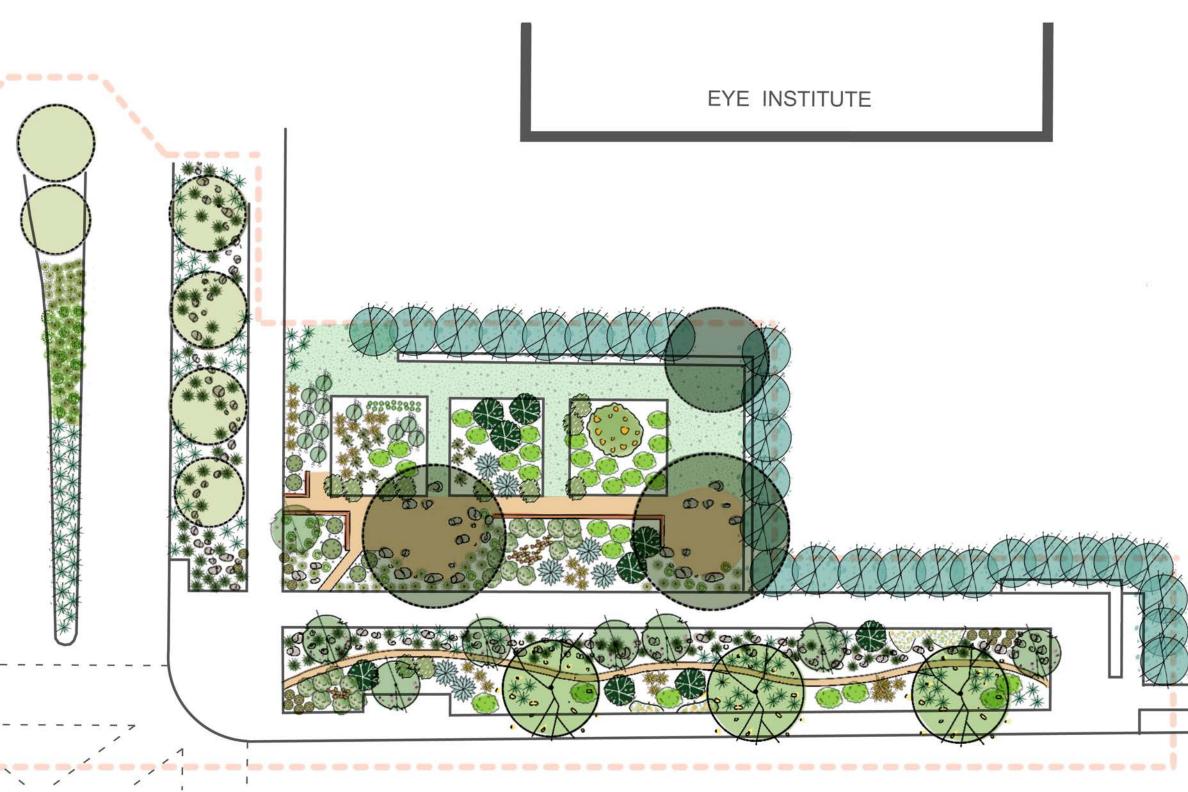


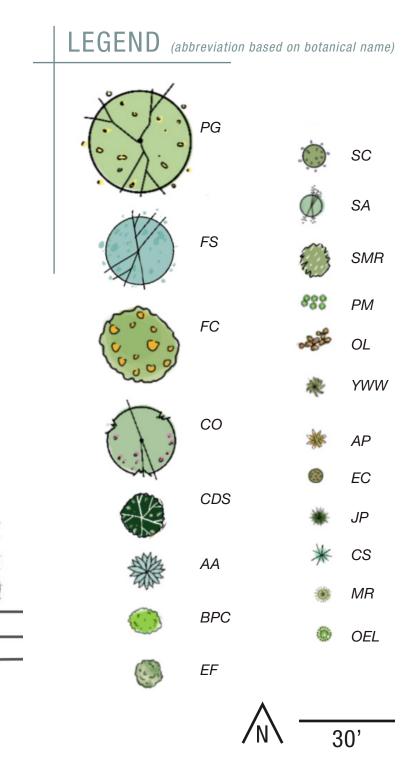
#### **PLANTING PLAN:** WEST SIDE





#### **PLANTING PLAN:** EAST SIDE





## **THE PLANTS:** PRIMARY PALLETE





HONEY MESQUITE Prosopis glandulosa





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PINEAPPLE GUAVA Feijoa sellowiana





FLANNEL BUSH Fremontodendron californicum





AMERICAN CENTURY PLANT Agave americana







DARK STAR MOUNTAIN LILAC Ceanothus Dark Star







WESTERN REDBUD Cercis occidentalis





CALIFORNIA BUCKWHEAT Eriogonum fasciculatum

## **THE PLANTS:** PRIMARY PALLETE









WHITE SAGE Ø Salvia apiana





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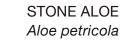
COASTAL PRICKLY PEAR Opuntia littoralis



CHAPARRAL YUCCA Hesperoyucca whipplei

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MEXICAN FENCE POST Pachycereus marginatus





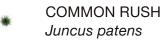
CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA Epilobium canum

## **THE PLANTS:** PRIMARY PALLETE









SAN DIEGO SEDGE Carex spissa

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DEERGRASS Muhlenbergia rigens

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WHITE GAURA Oenothera lindheimeri

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## **THE PLANTS:** MEADOW HYDROSEED MIX



CALIFORNIA MELICGRASS Melica californica

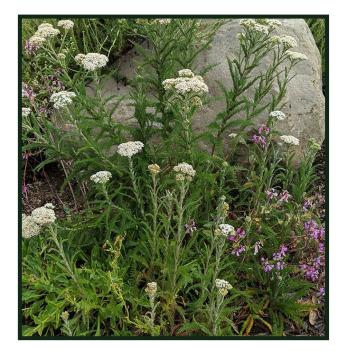




BLUE GRAMA Bouteloua gracilis



CALIFORNIA CANARY GRASS Phalaris californica



COMMON YARROW Achillea millefolium



CALIFORNIA GOLDFIELDS Lasthenia chrysostoma



MINIATURE LUPINE Lupinus bicolor



**BLUE-EYED GRASS** Sisyrinchium bellum



PUNCH BOWL GODETIA Clarkia bottae

## **THE PLANTS:** WILDFLOWER HYDROSEED MIX





CALIFORNIA POPPY Eschscholzia californica



CATERPILLAR PHACELIA Phacelia cicutaria



BABY BLUE EYES Nemophila menziesii



ELEGANT CLARKIA Clarkia unguiculata



CALIFORNIA CUDWEED Pseudognaphalium californicum



COAST MORNING GLORY Calystegia macrostegia ssp. cyclostegia



CREAMCUPS Platystemon californicus



WILD MARIGOLD Baileya multiradiata