

Boones Ferry Park – *The Essence of the River*
Public Art Project
PETE BEEMAN

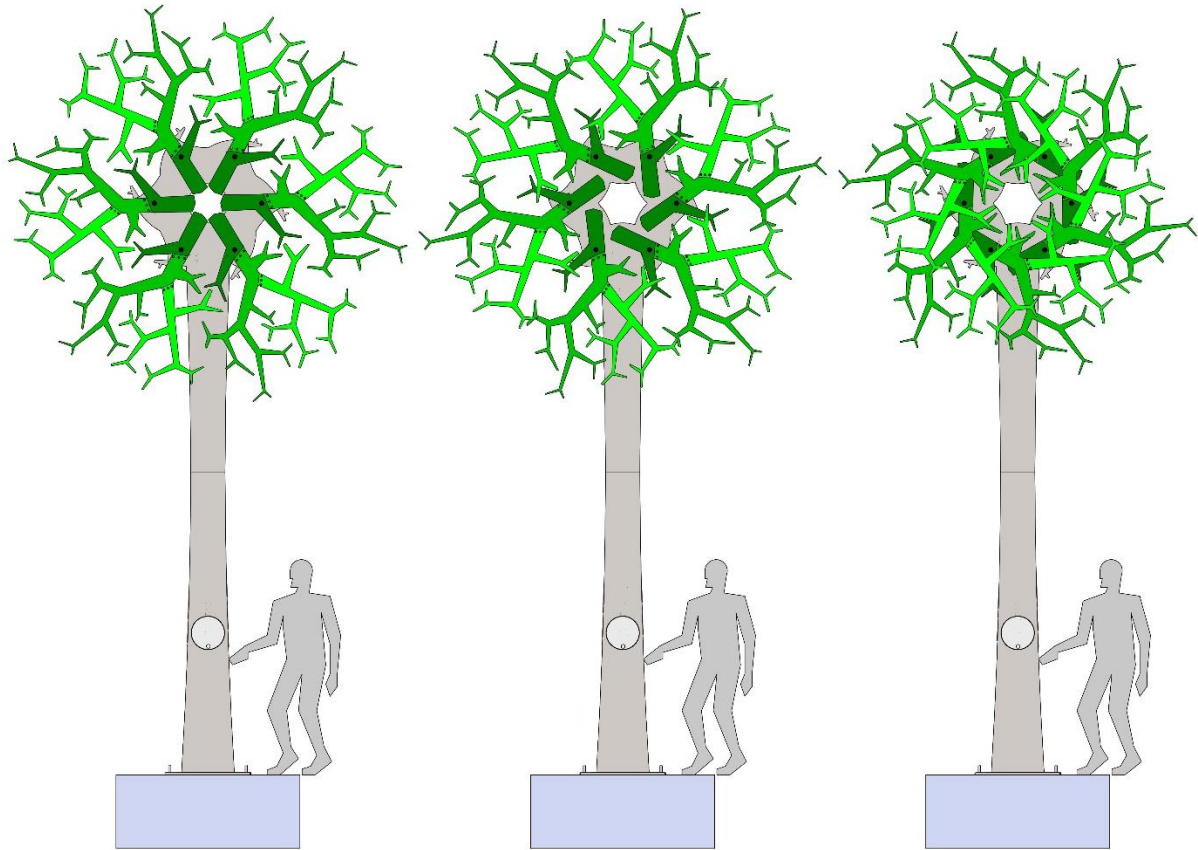
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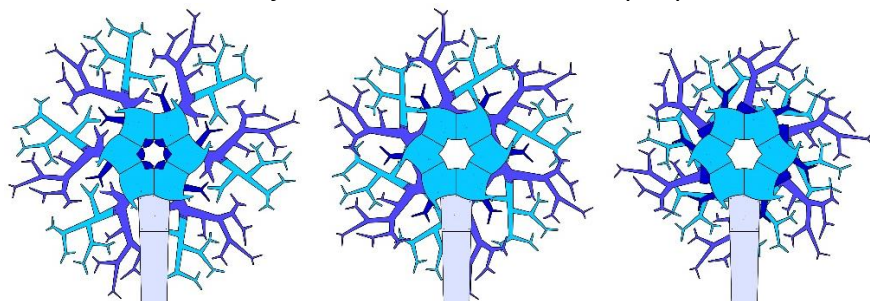
2068 NW Lovejoy St
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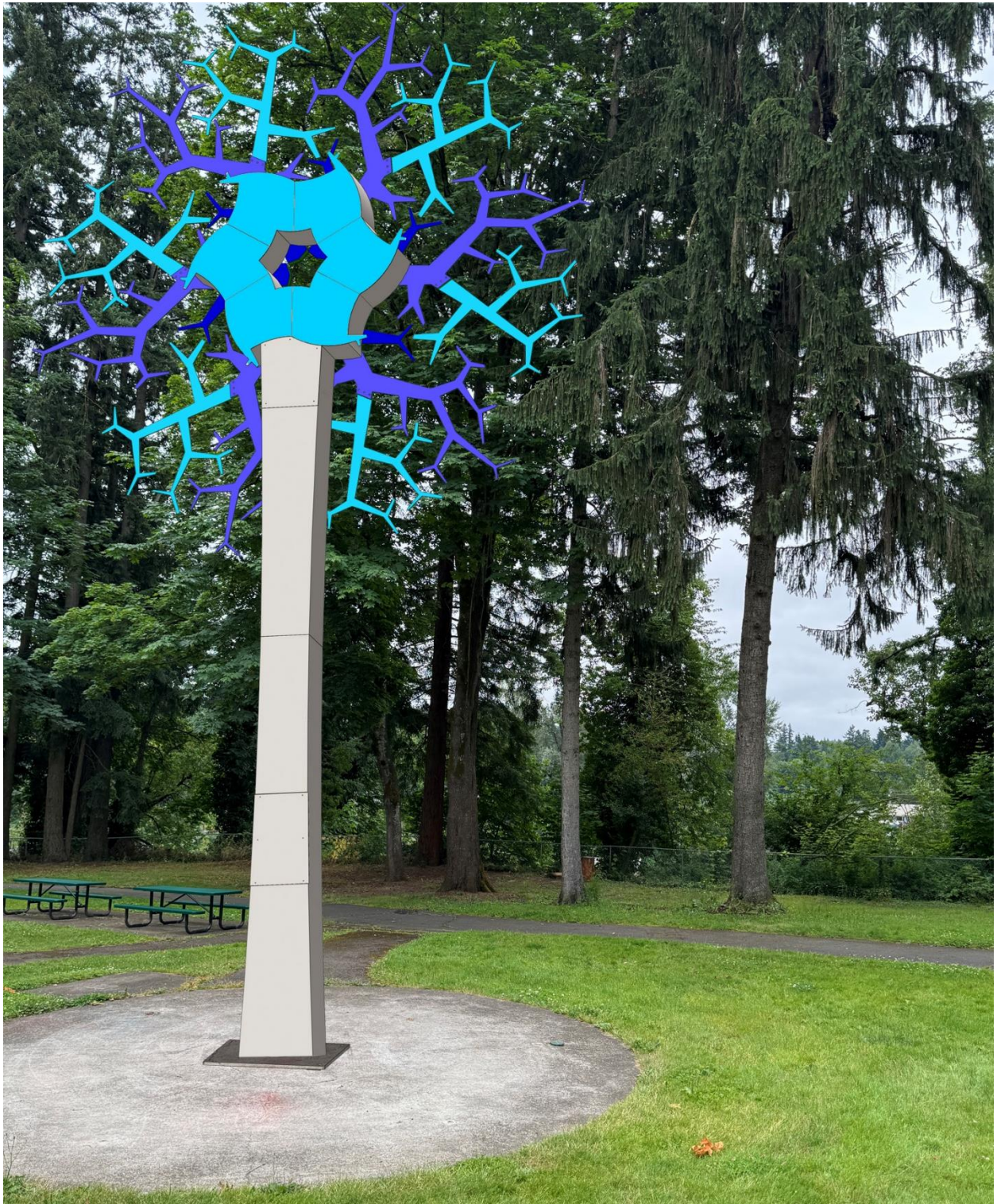
Rivers/Trees Iris

I will build the River/Tree Iris for the Boones Ferry Park. It is a stainless steel tower approximately 14' tall, topped by a 5' diameter ring supporting six branching rivers. The branches will be 3 shades of blue on the front and 3 shades of green on the back, representing branching trees. A crank on the tower about 3 feet off the ground will drive the branches to expand and contract around the center, each branch overlapping the branch adjacent to it. This function is a bit like a camera shutter, or iris valve, concentric overlapping elements. It will be up to Park visitors to turn the crank and bring the sculpture to life.



The branching blue rivers abstractly represent the crucial water system underlying the surrounding region, specifically the mighty Willamette that runs thru our regional heart, while the greens represent the trees and plants flourishing within the Park. That they are 2 sides of the same object, and that they are brought to life by the hands of the park visitor is the perfect metaphor for this site. It is the conjunction of river, trees and people.





Video

You can see a video simulation of the sculpture in action at this site:

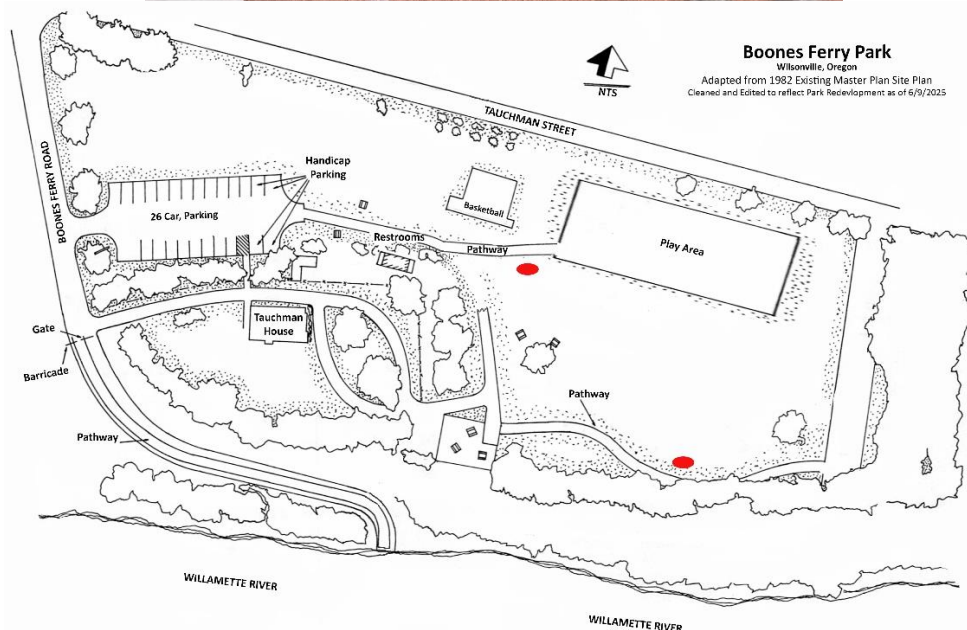
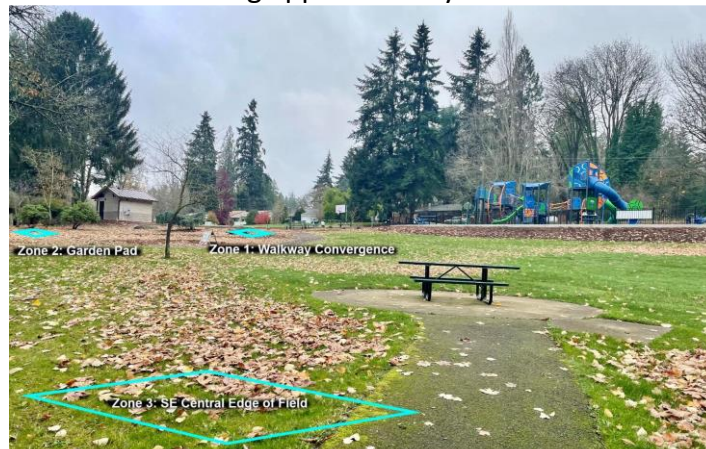
<https://vimeo.com/1112071032?fl=pl&fe=sh>

or follow the QR code to the right to the same video.



Site

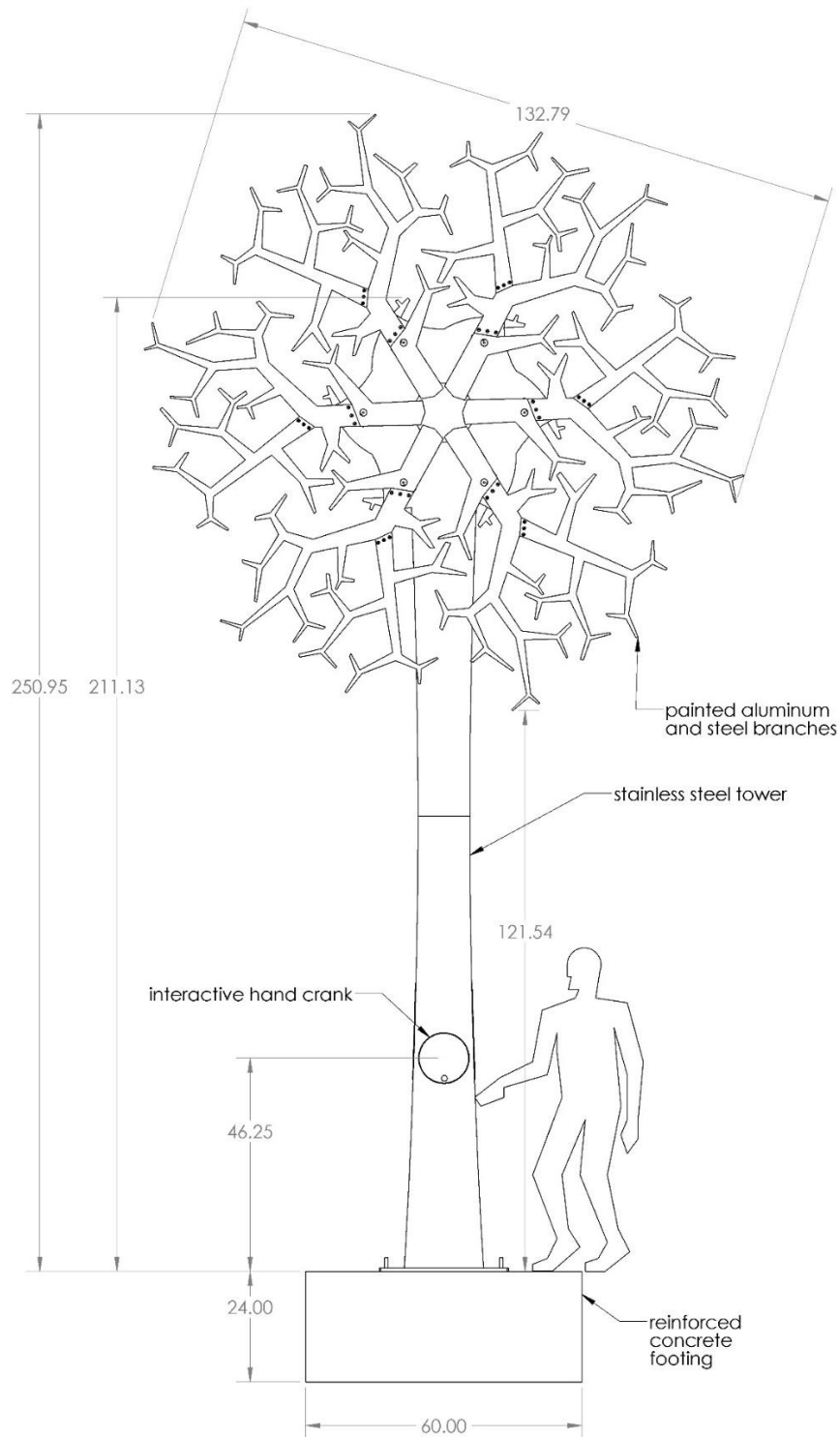
I have shown the sculpture on the concrete pad adjacent to Zone 3, but would be equally happy with placing it in zone 3 or zone 1. I believe it would be best established in conjunction with those who will run and maintain the park, and would work well in either of these locations. It will need a sub grade concrete footing approximately 5'x5'x2'.



This sculpture works equally well from either location. It can be reversed, swapping the colors on the face for those on the back, and rotating the whole thing 180 degrees. I think it should show blue as you face the river, and green as you face away from the river.

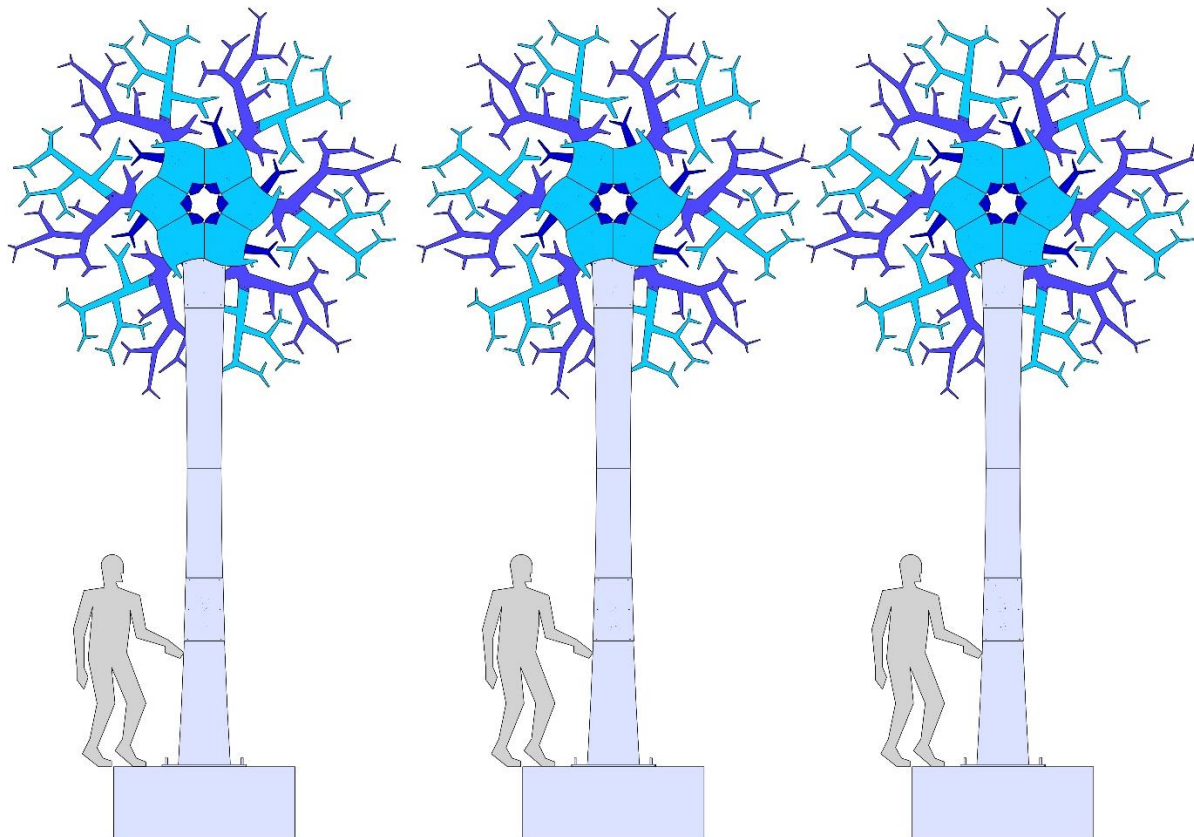
Materials and Fabrication

The tower and top ring are made of 304 stainless steel, laser cut with sides welded on and ground smooth. The “branches” will be in aluminum and stainless steel, painted with marine grade epoxy. The crank is built of 5/8” thick stainless welded to a 1 ¼” shaft supported by 2 pillow block mounted industrial bearings. It is designed to withstand a baseball bat attack unscathed. The sculpture weighs approximately 1500 pounds.



Conservation and Maintenance

Maintenance will consist of greasing bearings and lubing the drive chain. All bearings should be greased once a year, drive chains should be spray lubed at the same time, but given the low loads and speeds at play, they can survive on as little as once every 5 years. The more frequently they are lubricated, the longer they will last. I have similar mechanical systems in sculpture in place with infrequent lubrication that are in great condition 20 years on. All mechanical parts are off the shelf industrial grade units, tried and tested in industry, locally and easily available for replacement, but massively over-designed. Where they can handle thousands of pounds of load, they will see a hundred pounds at the most; designed for 3000RPM 24/7, they will see sporadic used at 10-100RPM. Access panels provided will allow easy access, held in place by tamper-resistant hardware. Lubrication will take simple tools and require a single person less than an hour. The tower is finished with a fine random-orbital sanding, that creates a beautiful matte finish with the illusion of depth, safe to touch, not too brightly reflective, and easy to clean of graffiti.



The completed project will have a user's manual complete with maintenance instructions, backed up by how-to photos, as well as a color palette packet and the original design and engineering drawings.



Timeline

I will design the project in fall of 2025 and winter of 2026, then fabricate in summer 2026. We will have concrete site work done in late August/early September and install in September 2026. Installation includes clean up from installation.

Budget		\$800	/day		
		days	item cost	cost totals	
Technical Design		14	11200	11200	
Materials	base plate		400		
	body stainless		5200		
	access panels		350		
	donut stainless		1200		
	crank		240		
	shafts		300		
	shaft bearings		600		
	shaft conx to blade		1200		
	blades		3000		
	blade drive rods		400		
	internal brackets		600		
	drive bearings		240		
	drive geardown box		700		
	drive sprockets		480		
	drive chain (corrosion resist)		640		
	chain idlers		500		
	drive conx rods		350		
	nuts & bolts		600		
			17000	17000	
Fabrication	base plate	1	800		
	body stainless	10	8000		
	access panels	4	3200		
	donut stainless	4	3200		
	crank	2	1600		
	shafts	2	1600		
	shaft bearings	1	800		
	shaft conx to blade	5	4000		
	blades	8	6400		
	blade drive rods	2	1600		
	internal brackets	4	3200		
	drive bearings	2	1600		
	drive geardown box	2	1600		
	drive sprockets	1	800		
	drive chain (corrosion resist)	1	800		
	chain idlers	1.5	1200		
	drive conx rods	1.5	1200		
	assemble/test	2.5	2000		
			43600	43600	
Engineering			4000	4000	
Plating (sprockets)			400	400	
epoxy coating (branches)			3000	3000	
transportation			800	800	
Installation	concrete site work		6000	6000	
	time	3	2400	2400	
	equipment rental		1600	1600	
Contingency		10%		10000	
			total	100000	