
INCREASING OUR SISTER CITY PROGRAM VISIBILITY WITHIN THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE

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HOW CAN WE INCREASE THE VISIBILITY OF OUR SISTER CITY PROGRAM WITHIN THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE AND FURTHER PROMOTE KITAKATA?

What steps can we take to achieve this and who's past works can we honor, build from, and expand on?



ROBERT MURASE

(SEPTEMBER 9, 1938 – JULY 19, 2005)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT WHO DESIGNED THE WATER FEATURE IN TOWN CENTER PARK AND MURASE PLAZA WHICH IS NAMED AFTER HIM.

"What attracts me to Japanese gardens lies in the essence of quietness which they express; their meditative emptiness, the illusion of nature, the effects of shadow and filtered light, and their stark simplicity. These gardens provide a sense of "wabi," the absence of any ostentatious element, and a sense of humility and melancholy. There is a dark, mysterious quality about them, an undiscoverable unknown which goes beyond our individual small self, which could be described as "yugen" in Japanese. These are some of the qualities I strive to express in the design process"

--Robert Murase

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Murase



THE ASK

Consider these projects as potential goals for 2024-2025:

- Project 1: Reimagining the landscaping around the Kitakata stone and adding more interpretive signage near the stone.
- Project 2: Conducting a feasibility study for a larger rock garden project in Town Center Park, Wilsonville Public Library or possibly Memorial Park near Murase Plaza.
- Gauge community interest for a larger project 2 concept.
- Leveraging grant funding in 2025.

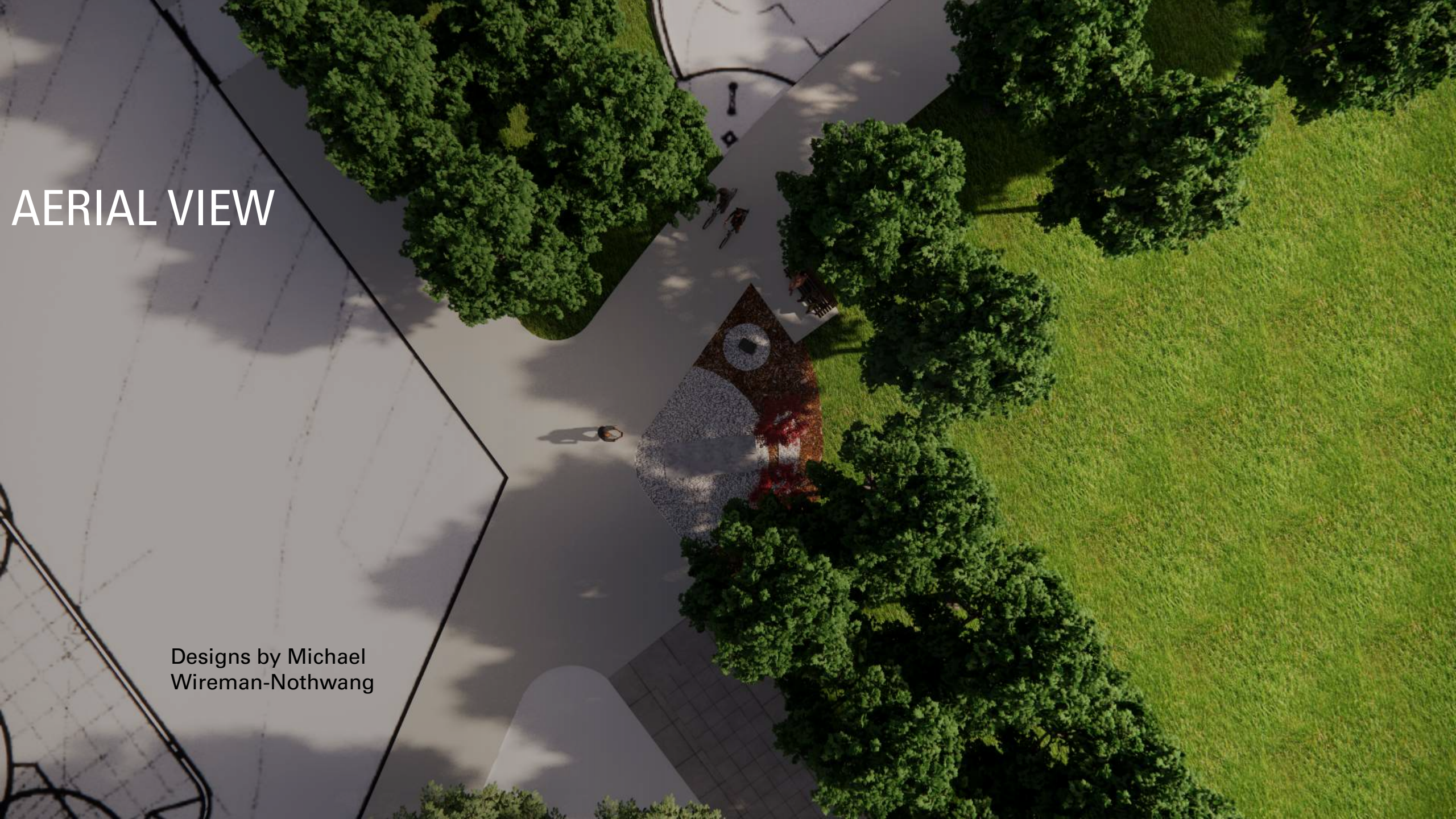




Designs by Michael
Wireman-Nothwang

AERIAL VIEW

Designs by Michael
Wireman-Nothwang





Designs by Michael
Wireman-Nothwang and
Pink Cherry Blossoms by
Aaron Reyna

A blurred background image showing a group of people in a classroom or meeting setting. Several individuals have their hands raised, indicating an interactive session or a Q&A period. The focus is on the hands and arms, with the faces and bodies of the people being out of focus.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING PROJECT ONE?

PROJECT 2 CONCEPT

This corner to the left side of the Korean War Memorial was one idea for a larger phase two meditative garden project that we could seek grant funding for.

This site though beautiful may require more intentional community dialogue.

Additional considerations may include:

- Japanese and Korean nation to nation relations/history.
- Korean-American and Japanese-American intergenerational perspectives.

A different part of the park or alternate site may be the preferable option to avoid these historical layers.

Memorial Park near Murase Plaza or the Wilsonville Public Library could be potential alternate sites. More research on site location will be required.



PROJECT 2 CONCEPT IN DEPTH

We can illustrate and better connect these different cultural and historical elements within Town Center Park by creating a meditative walk from the Kitakata stone to the pathways of War and Peace.

The walk illustrates the fragility & beauty of life and how there are always crossroads in life where we must choose a path. It also illustrates how people that our nation once considered our greatest enemies are now some of our closest allies, friends, neighbors and community members.



POTENTIAL COMMUNITY PARTNER ENGAGEMENT IDEAS

- Kitakata, Japan counterparts
- Wilsonville Citizen input
- Wilsonville Parks and Recreation staff
- Wilsonville Planning Department staff
- Wilsonville City Council/Mayor
- Wilsonville Chamber of Commerce
- Local Businesses
- Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon
- Wilsonville Tourism Committee
- Japanese American Citizens League
- A Korean Community Organization?

POTENTIAL NON-PROFIT PARTNERS

- Wilsonville Friends of the Library
- (WACC) Wilsonville Arts and Culture Council
- (WAIC) Wilsonville Alliance for Inclusive Community



POTENTIAL GRANTS TO APPLY TO:

- **Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement Program**
- **Wilsonville Community Opportunity Grant Program**
- **Wilsonville Community Tourism Grant Program**



PROJECT ONE COSTS

Estimated Costs in Detail

- \$6,000-7,000 cost estimate from contractor includes: digging down two inches to fill with gravel, moving existing landscaping, landscaping cloth barrier to hold gravel, placing two additional stones.
- \$100-200 for large basalt stone
- Pea gravel \$200-400
- \$600-1000 dark color contrast “absolute black granite” 1 inch and a quarter thick with laser engraving of Japan (Recommend having it bedded in concrete to prevent theft) and can laminate four inches thickness.
- Additional research on maintenance costs needed.

Estimated Costs:

Landscaping contractor labor	\$7,000
Large basalt stone	\$200
Pea gravel	\$400
Laser engraved stone	\$1,000
Concrete	\$50?
Stone delivery fees?	\$100
Total Estimated Cost:	8,750.00

PROJECT TWO COSTS

Estimated Costs in Detail

- \$8,000-9,000 cost estimate from contractor includes: digging down two inches to fill with gravel, moving existing landscaping, landscaping cloth barrier to hold gravel, placing two additional stones.
- \$100-200 for large basalt stone x 2 stones
- Pea gravel \$400-600
- Two Japanese Maples \$200(Optional idea but irrigation and maintenance is a question for park staff)
- \$560-1,000 large column stone
- Additional research on maintenance costs needed.

Estimated Costs:

Landscaping contractor labor	\$9,000
Two large basalt stones	\$400
Pea gravel	\$600
Large Column stone	\$1,000
Concrete	\$50-100?
Stone delivery fees?	\$100
Two Japanese Maples	\$200*
Stones for Path	\$400?
Phase 2 renderings	TBD
Total Estimated Cost:	\$11,750.00

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[North American Japanese Garden Association](#)

[OSU Master Gardener Program](#) for Zen rock garden ideas/support/collaboration.

[Wilsonville garden club](#)

Japanese Garden examples in Oregon:

[Ashland, Oregon Japanese Garden](#)

[Gresham, Oregon Japanese Garden](#)

[Portland, Oregon Japanese Garden](#)

[Japan Foundation New York](#)

[Portland Japanese American Citizens League](#)

[Oregon Korean War Memorial
Foundation of Oregon](#)

[Japanese American History
Museum of Oregon](#)

[Oregon Asian and Pacific Islander
Organization\(APANO\)](#)

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ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING PROJECT TWO?