



INFORMATION REQUEST

INFORMATION REQUEST #: IR-007-24

REQUESTED BY: Councillor Stevenson

TOPIC: Scattering Garden

DATE OF REQUEST: November 5, 2024

DATE OF RESPONSE: November 6, 2024

QUESTION:

Provide additional information/images thru to Committee to clarify what, exactly, a scattering garden is/looks like.

RESPONSE:

The following are images taken from other locations to give an idea of what a scattering garden is and is not necessarily reflective of the scale or the final appearance of a scattering garden in Pioneer Cemetery would be.







BACKGROUND:

A scattering garden, often found in cemeteries, is a designated place for scattering cremation ashes. As cremation rises in popularity (mainly due to a lower cremation cost and families who are less traditional), so have scattering gardens. They are essentially beautiful graveyards for those who choose cremation gardens designed and planted to make use of the scattered ashes. Cremation gardens are designed to be able to use the ash scattered there productively. These gardens represent the natural cycle of life and how some parts of our deceased loved ones are always with us in some form.

With the growing interest in scattering gardens, they are now being included at many cemetery locations.

Using a scattering garden as a place to lay all or some of your loved one’s ashes gives you and others who are grieving a place to come reflect and remember. Scattering gardens are designed for solitude and respite, many with benches for quiet contemplation among the lovely garden. These gardens also commonly feature plaques and other markers that memorialize those who have passed. This allows you to blend aspects of the traditional burial with the flexibility of cremation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/TAXATION IMPACT:

Initial Estimates of the use of the \$100k capital budget request:

Memorial wall plus foundation	\$15,000
Extensive landscaping including shrubs, flowers, turf, and large rocks	\$40,000
Small bridge	\$5,000
Signage, benches, receptacles, and iron work	\$30,000
Contingency	\$10,000

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