

January 12, 2024

Laramie Rivers Conservation District

**Progress Report: Albany County Public Library Foundation,**

**Community Enhancement Grant**

Dear Laramie Rivers Conservation District,

As of January 2024, the ACPL Public Gathering Space Beautification project is continuing to make progress. Here is the third progress report for the project.

**Grant Project Progress (Storywalk and Landscaping):**

* Volunteers from UW’s Big Event completed removing remaining dirt and finalizing the areas around each concrete pad. Maintenance procedures have been put in place to clean the stands each week, to frequently remove any snow that covers the stands, and snow removal processes for the concrete pads.
* Prep work is being completed on the stories included in the Storywalk stands. With the cold temperatures and wind, there needs to be a structure inside each stand to better hold the pages. This part of the project is moving forward now that it is possible to determine the amount of spacing between the back of each stand and the glass.
* Lighting is being ordered to install along the path. The two dog feces removal stands are at the library. These will be installed in early spring when the ground is a bit softer.
* The main landscaping part of the project has not moved forward. ACPL received two landscaping quotes for the west side of the building. One was $10,000 for terracing and did not include mulch, and the other was for $30,000. These estimates are outside of ACPL’s budget. ACPL is working on a backup plan, and I will be in touch soon to discuss.

**Grant Project Progress (Native Plan Labeling):**

* The first portion of the native plant labels were ordered and have arrived. See attached photo. These labels are used frequently by botanic gardens and allow for flexibility on whether they are mounted on plants or stuck in the ground. This first round of plant labels were all plants that are easily identified and were approved to order by Laramie Garden Club volunteers. These labels will be installed in early spring.
* To complete this part of the project, the ACPL Foundation is still in the process of finalizing a second round of plant labels to order, installing signage, and creating a garden map. The garden map process will start soon.

**Expenses:**

* The ACPL Foundation has received $2,500 from Laramie Rivers Conservation District for the grant project. The organization’s grant project currently totals $11,151.50, including personnel and volunteer time. Laramie River Conservation District funding currently totals $3,553.99, leaving a remaining $1,446.01 in grant funding. As such, the requested minimum 30% in-kind labor and/or cash match has been reached.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Caitlin White

Executive Director

307-721-2580 x5456

cwhite@acplwy.org