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Respondent

4

Madelyn Craft

14:21

Time to complete

## 1. Date of this Scope Change submission \*

10/22/2024



## 2. Project name (exactly as it was named on the original Award Letter) \*

Red Oak Rain Garden Outreach and Enhancements

## 3. Date (or semester/year) of project's original award \*

05/25/2024

## 4. Current expiration date of award \*

**You can find this information on your original Award Letter or Scope Change Approval Letter (whichever is most recent).**

05/26/2026

## 5. Enter the amount of the award, including any budget increases as a result of a previous Scope Change. \*

\$9,708.20

## 6. How much (in dollars) of your award (including previous approved budget increases) is remaining? \*

\$9,708.20

## 7. Briefly describe the goals of your project. \*

Red Oak Rain Garden is campus' environmental demonstration landscape built by and for students, incorporating equitable design principles. Located next to dormitories and well-traveled pathways, it serves as an immersive educational tool, highlighting the role rain gardens play in managing stormwater, safeguarding water quality, and nurturing ecosystems. This project includes interpretive signage to tell that story, including Braille and multi-language audio tours, and volunteer-installed vegetation enhancements that revitalize spots affected by two years of drought. With these enhancements, the rain garden can continue to be a student respite that serves as a model for campus sustainable landscapes.

## 8. Have you submitted one or more required Semester Project Reports for this project prior to this Scope Change request? \*

**NOTE: Timely submission of Project Reports are required to remain in compliance with the Terms and Conditions of your award.**☐ Yes☒ No

## 9. Type of Scope Change requested (select all that apply) \*

☐ Budget Increase☒ Project Direction☒ Project Timeline

## 10. How much additional funding (in dollars) are you requesting? \*

**Enter N/A if not applicable**

\$0

## 11. Provide a detailed explanation for the requested Budget Increase. \*

**Enter N/A if not applicable**

N/A

## 12. Provide a detailed explanation for the requested change in Project Direction. \*

Enter N/A if not applicable

The project direction has not changed and we are seeking no additional funds. However, the project direction has been refined due for three primary reasons: 1. we received additional funding from another source that allowed us to expand the number of native plants, allowing for "cost-share" items on the budget, 2. discussion with the F&S Architectural Review Committee (ARC) clarified their requirements to receive approval for our signs, 3. our student volunteer base has increased. Additional information about new or revised items follows:

Signage:

The original application included a small sign. We should have included an additional line item to support the small sign. The application also included 3 medium and 3 large signs. After discussion with ARC, we have shifted these to 1 large sign that includes Braille (paid by another grant) and 120 very small plant identification signs. Plant identification signs are important to increase native plant literacy on campus. With several academic classes using RORG as an outdoor classroom, species identification is a crucial part of enhancing student knowledge about native plants. The original application did not include budget items for graphic design so this scope change seeks to correct this. RORG has a track record of centering student work with professional oversight. We plan to continue this effort with the design of the signs. Past students have reflected this as invaluable experience that has helped them in the education and careers. Thus, we're including line items for a professional graphic designer and a graphics student.

Plant installation support items:

As mentioned, the plant costs are shared with another grant source. Nearly 1,000 plants were installed! The list of plant installation support items includes soil enrichment, a shovel, buckets, a table and tent. For our outreach efforts to be effective and comfortable for student volunteers and team members, having a dedicated table and tent is essential. It creates a central spot where we can sign volunteers in, engage with visitors about sustainability, share information on environmentally responsible green stormwater infrastructure practices, and extend the reach of our work during workday events.

T-Shirts:

T-shirts provide both a sense of belonging and visibility to our student volunteers, helping them represent the rain garden while promoting our outreach goals. Our t-shirts are aligned with our values; we use a local vendor that values accessibility and sustainability.

## 13. Provide a detailed explanation for the requested change in the Project Timeline \*

Enter N/A if not applicable

Delays in the sign installation are due to the challenge of finding a manufacturer to fabricate Braille for outdoor signs for our main interpretive sign. Further, we have been working closely with DRES and Extension Communications to ensure that we're creating an inclusive environment that goes beyond compliance. We anticipate installing all signs by the end of the spring 2025 semester.

## 14. Please complete the Scope Change Budget and Timeline spreadsheet (link to file is below) and upload the updated version here.

Download the file here: <https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/2024-09/SSC-Budget-Timeline-SCOPE-CHANGE-template.xlsx>

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SSC-Budget-Timeline-SCOPE-CHANGE-template\_Madelyn Craft.xlsx