



2026 Quarter 3

For the past several months, we've been renovating the entrance at the Yume Japanese Garden. The Tucson Botanical Gardens purchased the property last year and their team has been busy renovating the garden itself. Sundrea Design/Build was asked to create a new entry which involved completely reimagining the space and approach.

Access to the Japanese Garden will entail parking at the Botanical Gardens and using the city sidewalk along Alvernon Way. The previous front entry of Yume has become the exit, while the new entrance will guide visitors across a designated accessible parking lot. For continuity we built a lava rock retaining wall in front of Yume to match the one in front of the Botanical Gardens. A diagonal masonry wall was designed to lead visitors onto a black flagstone path and through a cedar wood gate. Boulders and temporary signage emphasize the entrance while cut pieces of stone curbing define the space. A permanent sign will be installed next year.

Upon exiting the Yume Garden, visitors will pass through a small courtyard on the backside of the diagonal entry wall, visually obscuring Alvernon Way. A cedar wood trellis was constructed to allow filtered light in and offer a glimpse out to a traditional Japanese boulder arrangement surrounded by a sea of pea gravel. The wood trellis pattern continues along the top of the masonry wall and connects to the front gate. Within the courtyard, a small waterfall and stream symbolizes the flow of life as well as softens the traffic noise on Alvernon. Black flagstone paves the way through a portal and back out onto the city sidewalk.

While these photos show only our work in progress, we invite you to visit Yume for their grand re-opening in October. Not only to check out our work but to also see the beautifully renovated Japanese Garden.

Before



Entry Layout



Cedar Frame



Exit Portal

