

## LANDSCAPE OPTION A

The existing wall to the north of the new bluestone steps and walkway is the style, height, and functionality we are trying to achieve along the rest of the front of the property. With the community engagement platform of the Victory Garden that the Leswings uphold in their front yard some walls will be necessary to help maintain the grade and allow for plantings while eliminating the possibility of erosion to the greatest extent. With a knee wall being installed at the same height, in the same style, as the existing wall - set 1' back from the sidewalk - the grade will be maintained with a lesser slope and therefore aid in lessening erosion.

Additionally, to aid in maintaining the grade, we are proposing a secondary wall of similar style to be installed along the top/crown of the berm at a 1' height. While I know there will be some immediate objections with the reference to terracing, this wall would be the most structurally sound option for the use of the front berm area. During early spring, late fall, and the winter months when the crop plantings aren't present, there would be minimal plantings holding the slope in place. With this wall we can supplement plantings in the steepest areas of the berm for year-long stability, as the wall will accomplish most of the work in deterring erosion.

The inspiration for Option A is simply the most pragmatic way to get the most amount of useable space out of a sloped property – either in the backyard or the front yard. This model has been implemented in many properties all over the Metro Milwaukee area to achieve the stability needed for a sloped yard. One example of such implementation is the property at 2961 N Marietta. This East Side home has a very similar feel in comparison to the Leswing property. The architectural features of the home are enhanced by the manicured and cared for plantings along the front berm. As you can see, with a quick once-over, the eye interprets the walls and plantings as a sloped front yard. Because the walls are low, and made with simple natural stone, they almost fade into the plantings. The carefully selected plant material blends together and fills in to make a textural, interesting, and maintained enhancement to the front entrance of the home.