

Bradford Watson  
5806 Franklin Boulevard  
Cleveland, Ohio 44102  
bradfordawatson@gmail.com  
216.224.3824

**Public Art Design Competition  
City of Lakewood  
Downtown Transit Waiting Environment**

Urban Plains:

Bus stops, or any other transit waiting area, by their very nature are places of passing time and anticipation. They are part of the daily ritual of our day and we come to mark the passage of the season by the way one has to dress to wait for transit to arrive. At some point there is a shift from waiting in the early morning dusk to basking in the sun with a crisp spring breeze. Similarly as the year fades, that bright sun slips from the morning and the smell of fall fills the air, preparing one for the cold and anticipation of the next spring. This series of three planters becomes a way of marking time that reaches back to the native prairies that once covered this region.

Constructed out of lpe wood, a weather resistant hard wood, these planters provide a portal into the historic plains of the Midwest. Three planters of differing heights emerge from the concrete to provide a dynamic landscape of native Ohio prairie grass and flowers. The plains eventually elevate to provide a shelter for those waiting for the transit system to arrive. The lpe will start in a red / orange tone and turn to a silver / gray as time passes, further facilitating the marking of time passing. Similarly, the prairies are a permanent reminder of the seasonal cycle with their change in height, color, texture and natural attraction and add to the anticipation within this waiting environment.