City Ridge, named for its topographical location along the city's natural ridge line, is a 10-acre mixed-use development on the site of the former Fannie Mae campus in Washington D.C.

For six decades, the private campus was gated and inaccessible to the public. The landscape mission for the design of City Ridge is three-fold: to enhance the site and historic architectural character, to connect the new urban village to the existing residential neighborhood, and to provide a vibrant and resilient public realm and streetscape with a robust stormwater strategy. The Landscape Architect helped shape the vision from urban design framework to landscape installation.

Project opportunities and challenges came from marrying the Colonial Revival building with the contemporary development within the site's interior. The redesign of the front lawn and the two courtyards at the rear of the historic building maintain an orthogonal geometry, taking cues from the existing building, and updating planting with a seasonal palette. Paving materials, lighting fixtures, and site furnishings play a key role in unifying the site while simultaneously distinguishing public from private spaces. Residents, neighbors, shoppers, and visitors mingle and connect daily on the sidewalks, at the retail stores, and on the new public green.







Photography by David Madison Photography





























