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The goal when designing this metal gateway feature was to evoke the spirit of the surrounding wetlands in a way that is both contemporary and organic. I achieved this by incorporating a signature piece of flora from the region, the majestic palm frond, prominently on face of the gateway feature. This partnered with the metal bird sculptures accompanying it will serve as prestigious and warm welcome The Preserves at Avonlea.

The primary material for the project is cor-ten weathering steel, which features a rust colored patina. The outer layer of this metal serves as protective shield that prevents further oxidation and can withstand exposure to the elements year-round with virtually no maintenance. The palm frond and lettering are made of Stainless Steel, another time-tested material requiring no maintenance. The stainless palm frond will also be powder coated green to provide a subtle dash of color to the piece. The metal for the gateway feature will be tig welded which results in clean, smooth edges on at every angle which make the piece safe and well as sturdy. These materials combined will ensure a long life for the sculpture with virtually no maintenance. The edges of the piece appear sharp to create an impactful design but are dull to the touch and safe for the location on the project.

As for my background, I have been working professionally as a metal sculptor for 19 years. My work can be found in public and private collections across the United States. My passion for art lies in abstract geometrics, and over the years, I've incorporated iconic and whimsical shapes into my sculptures that help viewers connect with my sculptures on a deeper emotional level. I strive to create thought-provoking work that is sophisticated, easily recognized and will serve as a "mental postcard".

Having had the chance to review the installation mockup and requirements for the design I expect the cost of the gateway feature are and the bird sculptures to be \$45,000 each for a total art value of \$90,000 for this project. This price includes the sculptures and delivery/shipping.

Sincerely,

**Dale Rogers**