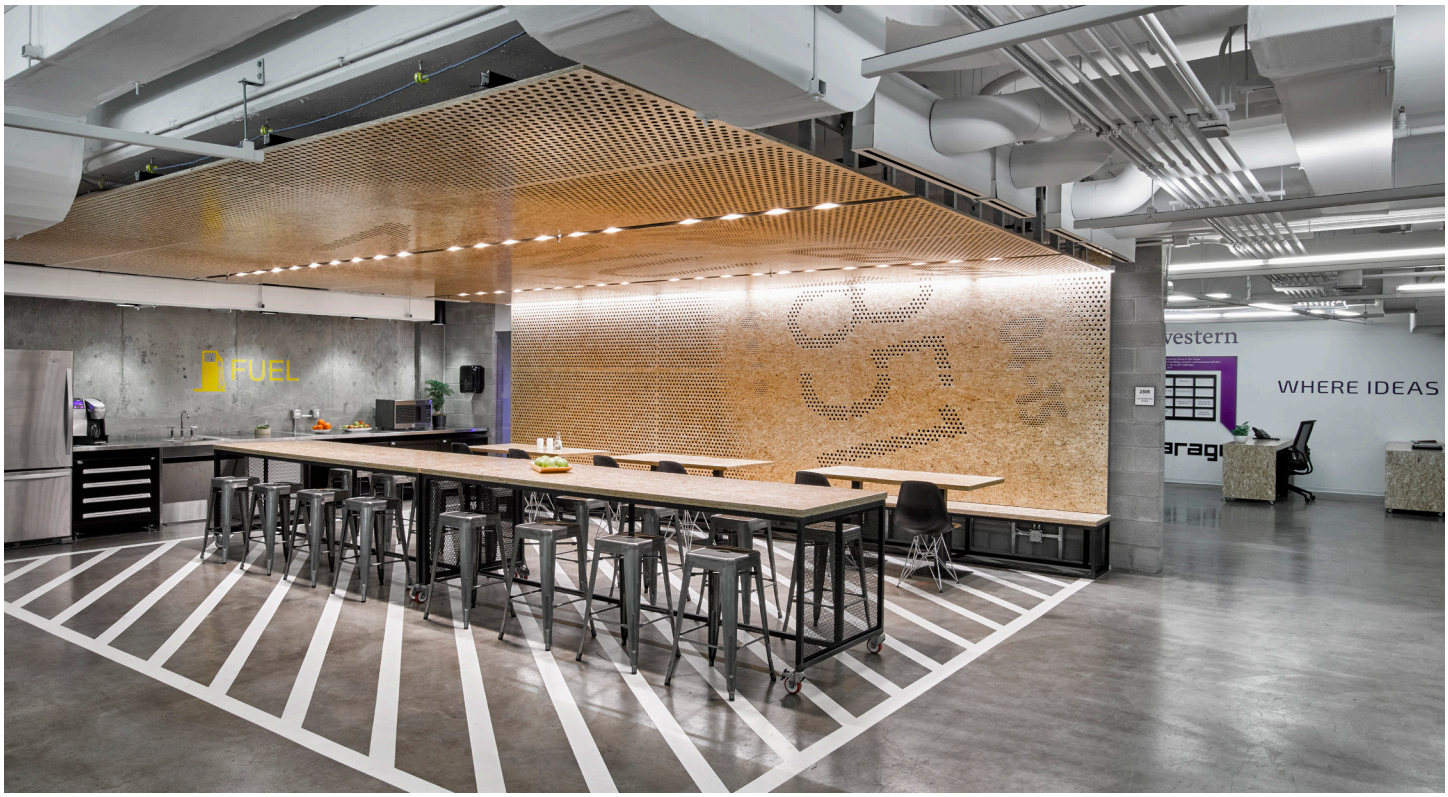
Bioretention area integrated into a parking lot at the University of Wisconsin.

## 8.5 Parking Areas

Given the location of the campus, the regional population it serves, and the modest number of regional transit routes, vehicular parking is a necessity and will continue to be in the foreseeable future as the campus evolves. There is an opportunity to retrofit and introduce new parking facilities that re-imagine standard parking into amenity areas that serve as a future opportunity for infill or conversion, and contribute to the environmental sustainability of the campus. Satellite parking locations, connected by shuttles or trail networks, would also serve to reduce the impact of cars on the campus.

### General Guidelines

- Encourage structured or underground parking as an alternative to surface parking lots, where feasible. Structured parking presents an opportunity for future flexibility of use (i.e. conversion to residential, retail, or other use).
- Introduce Low Impact Development strategies to manage rainwater and stormwater runoff, which may include rainwater infiltration gardens, bioswales, and permeable pavers.
- Expand permeable grid paving systems that eliminate the use of asphalt across the campus and offer a host of benefits including flood risk mitigation and stormwater management. Trent University has introduced this system at the north edge of the west bank, and seeks to expand this initiative.
- Reduce the urban heat island effect through the selection of high-albedo (lighter-coloured) alternatives to traditional asphalt surface treatment.
- Expand priority parking spaces for car-pooling spots and electric vehicles, and install charging stations, where feasible.
- Provide safe and clearly marked pedestrian pathways throughout surface parking lots.
- Incorporate ample salt-tolerant tree and vegetative planting to maximize shade cover, visual interest, bird and insect habitat, and maximize drainage.
- In parking lot plantings, incorporate species that are common to the area, as well as other plant species that support environmental restoration.




Parking garage at Northwestern University designed to convert into classroom space, Evanston, Illinois.
Source: Garrett Rowland, Gensler

Three floors of discreet parking nestled between the ground floor and the upper office floors, Cincinnati
Source: Garrett Rowland, Gensler