

Planning Board on December 1

REPORT for 399 Union St Coffee Shop

The Design Review Committee has the following comments for the Starbucks project.

1 - We recommend that the Planning Board consider a relationship with the property owner/ tenant to install elements significant to the town at the apex. A suggestion would be: "Welcome to Downtown Ashland" sign in the same style/colors as the other Ashland signs around town, similar to the Corner Spot that indicates community engagement.

2 - We would like to see permeable paving at the outdoor seating area.

3 - We would have like to see more big trees over the paved area to provide shade and all the good ecosystem service that trees provide.

4 - Change the Trimming regimen for the meadow area to Once a year only, and Only in the early spring, after Forsythia or Redbud bloom. The meadow will take 2-3 years to establish, and another couple of years after that to ensure it's longevity. The seed company has some Very specific recommendations that need to be followed in order for this to be successful. We would recommend wording to that effect to cover the town in the final Planning Board decision.

Thank you very much.