



Alvaro Esparza <aesparza@ashlandmass.com>

9-49 Homer Street Revised Plans: Request for Department Comments

Becca Solomon <bsolomon@ashlandmass.com>

Wed, Sep 27, 2023 at 9:23 AM

To: Peter Matchak <pmatchak@ashlandmass.com>

Cc: Kevin Langmeyer <klangmeyer@ashlandmass.com>, Evan White <ewhite@ashlandmass.com>, Doug Small <dsmall@ashlandmass.com>, Daniel Maurer <dmaurer@ashlandmass.com>, Rebecca Navarro <rnavarro@ashlandmass.com>, Rajit Gupta <rgupta@ashlandmass.com>, Doug Scott <dscott@ashlandmass.com>, Alvaro Esparza <aesparza@ashlandmass.com>, Keith Robie <krobie@ashlandfire.com>, Lynne Moraghan <lmoraghan@ashlandfire.com>, Chief Cara Rossi <crossi@ashlandpd.org>, Jennifer Ball <jball@ashlandmass.com>, Michael Herbert <mherbert@ashlandmass.com>

Sorry for the delay on this Peter,

I only had comments on the planting plan. The first two are just general comments they may want to take into consideration. The second two are issues as the proposals are non-native plants.

***Acer Saccharum* 'Reba'**

Well adapted for heat and humidity, does not tolerate pollution or compaction. May not do well next to road and exit drive. Sugar maples as a whole not tolerant of urban conditions. Consider alternative: *Acer Rubrum* (red maple)- fast growing, urban and compaction tolerant, usually drought tolerant, hardy and adaptable, still produces fall color.

***Pinus Strobus* 'Fastigiata'**

Self pruning, and branches susceptible to breakage. The more upright growth of the branches will help limit overlap over parking lot, but will need to be carefully monitored where overlapping parking spaces.

***Ilex Crenata* 'Sky Pencil'**

Ilex Crenata (Japanese holly) is not native to New England, or the US as a whole. Consider alternative *Ilex Glabra* (inkberry), grows less densely, but is a versatile native evergreen.

***Taxus x Media* 'H.M. Eddie'**

"H.M. Eddie Yew", cross between two non-native species- English Yew (*T. Baccata*) and Japanese Yew (*T. Cuspidata*). Appears planned for use as evergreen privacy screening, consider alternative: *Thuja occidentalis* (northern white cedar or eastern arborvitae), classic cedar privacy fence. Holmstrup cultivar claims to be deer resistant, but other cultivars may be more appropriate. *Ilex Opaca* (American Holly) would also be suitable.

Thank you,
-Becca

[Quoted text hidden]