

From: Jeff Tarling
To: Jean Fraser
CC: David Margolis-Pineo
Date: 9/3/2014 9:15 PM
Subject: Re: urgent- comments on 2282 Congress

Jean -

In review of the recent updated site plan I offer the following review comments and conditions:

After revisiting the site and the extensive existing tree and landscape to be removed, I would recommend adjusting plant types and spacing so the site appears to mimic the existing and surrounding natural conditions. Native trees and shrubs are recommended using about the same number of plants as in the last approval. This is vital to protect the character of the gateway into Portland. One can note the surrounding landscapes including UNUM and the smaller commercial properties retain a large percentage of native trees. Conditions for approval should include:

a) Additional trees & landscape planting area - this is an extension of the original approval condition to add trees, shrubs to the area on the easterly side of the project near the edge of pavement and storm-water pond / drainage area.

Additional tree recommendations: five additional trees in this area - recommended types : Eastern Larch, a native deciduous conifer, 5-6' height or Black Tupelo 2" caliper or a mix of the two equaling five trees. The trees can be planted in groups or spaced to allow for snow storage.

Two groups of five shrubs should be planted along the westerly pond edge, these could be Winterberry, Bayberry, or Myrica gale.

b) Existing tree recommendations - Due to the site conditions the following tree types should be adjusted or changed:

1) White Pine - If the site conditions where the White Pine trees are proposed is wet - White Spruce would be recommended. Pin Oaks - the proposed Pin Oak should be changed to Swamp White Oak as a preferred native tree type for the conditions.

2) Blueberry shrub planting along pond edge - the goal here would be to try to make the site appear more natural. Thus arranging the plants in groups or clusters using the same number of plants as shown. Winterberry would be recommended as an alternative plant choice.

3) Arborvitae - following the theme to make the landscape near the drainage area appear more natural, alternative plant types using the same amount of tree units would be a condition. Instead of a straight row of Arborvitae, the planting of White Spruce, Larch, White Pine, or River Birch would be a recommendation. The spacing could be in groups or a wider 20 - 25'.

I would be willing to review or meet with the project team if needed.

Thanks,
Jeff Tarling

>>> Jean Fraser 09/03/14 6:03 PM >>>
Jeff

Please send asap- it was submitted and circulated for comments in early august and we need to tie this up- thanks.

Jean