



March 8, 2024

Stow Planning Board  
380 Great Road  
Stow, MA 01775

Re: Landscape Review  
Stow House of Pizza  
156 Great Road  
Project No. 6765

Dear Board Members:

I have reviewed the Landscape Mitigation Plan for 156 Great Road, Stow House of Pizza site dated 2.5.2024 and have the following comments:

1. The site detail calls for mulch in the planting bed with loam and hydroseed on the 2:1 slope. There is no demarcation of the mulch/grass transition. The planting details call for two different thicknesses of mulch
2. A 2:1 slope should have a slope stabilization fabric for slope stability while vegetation is getting established.
3. The October Glory red maple is not salt tolerant with shallow roots. It will likely cause the sidewalk to heave unless a root barrier is installed between the tree and sidewalk.
4. The Green Giant arborvitae will grow to be 40-60' tall and up to 18' wide. It is deer resistant. The proposed plan calls for 3'-4' high plants to be planted 10' on center. These trees will take 4-5 years to provide screening from the abutter and will eventually grow too large for this space.
5. If the new septic system is to be installed, there should be erosion control around it and stabilization method identified.
6. Junipers are hosts to Juniper-Apple Rust (Eastern Red Cedar is actually a juniper). These trees are not appropriate for areas within a mile of apple orchards.
7. No specification for loam was provided. The specification should include the requirement for testing and include amount of organic matter, pH and any fertilizer requirements.
8. The planting detail should specify that if the burlap on the rootball is a synthetic burlap, it shall be removed, not folded back.
9. No seasonal flowering species are proposed, creating a little aesthetics and variation throughout the growing season.

Please contact this office should you have any questions regarding this the project. Thank you.

Very truly yours,  
Places Associates, Inc.  
BY:

William E. Murray, R.L.A., CLARB