



MEETING NOTES

To: Jeanette Janiczek
City of Charlottesville

From: Sal Musarra, PLA, ASLA, LEED AP
Kimley-Horn

Date/Time: September 5, 2017

Subject: Tree Commission Meeting

PURPOSE

The Belmont Bridge team attended the regularly scheduled Tree Commission to provide an update on the process and to receive feedback from the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) and Planning Commission.

Summary of Discussion

Project Updates

The Following items were discussed regarding the Belmont Bridge project:

Approach Vegetation

- Preference is for Sycamore/London Plane (most support), Elm or Swamp White Oak
- Other options include vegetation heartier than Red Maple
- Green Mountain—too dense
- Need to ensure enough soil volume, currently the planting strip is 8 feet in width

Plaza Vegetation

- Recommend more regional approach to plantings – such as redbuds, willow oak
- Unsure of Flame Maples—City inventory shows City has too many/high percentage of already planted trees; they also don't tolerate heat well
- Remove Maples
- Like Ginkgo—references to old trees planted near project area

Supporting Vegetation

- River Birch not a good street tree
- Small palette on shade trees—OK to use same shade trees as Plaza Plantings
- Suggested Virginia Creeper and Jasmine

- Lose some or all green screens—should put that funding into planting beds in front of the bridge abutments instead
- Add evergreens if there is room—For example use Pines in front of the Children’s Hospital or add Magnolias or Sweet Bays