

WOEC

West Orange Environmental Commission

TO: West Orange Zoning Board
FROM: WOEC, Mike Brick, Chairman
SUBJECT: Essex Green Landscaping Plan from LANGAN Engineering, Michael Fowler, PE, LEED, P

As within our advisory capacity, we submit a list of data to be turned into questions that we ask the Zoning Board to consider with the application for additions and upgrades to the Essex Green Shopping Center Project.

We have used the EPA Parking Lot, Stormwater Runoff Guidelines in preparing these questions to the Developer as follows:

- Pervious Pavement- consider add 25% to site area parking lots, planting areas. Stormwater retention is very important.
- Tree Islands: now mostly 2 trees/island. Change to 4-6-8 trees to larger islands with absorption quality, bioswales, sunken gardens, with less islands. Possibly Terracing levels. Protect trees from shopping cards, auto bumpers with fencing, higher curbs.
- Mulch currently used incorrectly. Remove, do not add in future. Eliminate weeds with other methods. No mulch near trunks of trees
- Retaining Pond; make exposed if not already with absorption landscaping with local plants, trees.
- Roofs, Downspouts, to reclaim water for planters, into beds.
- Soil Erosion Plan? Please present to us.
- Landscaping maintenance, permanent multi year written into contract. Feed 2X/year
- Environmental report of site? Need to read thru.
- Add Electric charging stations for autos.

- Garden Vertical Evergreen walls where appropriate on site, on covered walkway.
- Water fountains, many types, plus water way channels in walkways, public areas. This adds cooling, ambiance, tranquility to a multi use Center in our future.
- Use native species, plants, trees not imported. They live much better and restores natural biodiversity.
- LEED GREEN Platinum Buildings on site, esp- GREEN Rooftops
- Groundwater runoff on parking impervious surfaces to be partially directed to ports in bioswale islands for self irrigation and create sunken gardens, trees to be elevated from lower areas.
- Town Forrester was not notified of submitted plans and did not do a initial inspection before plans were created and submitted. Playing catch up is not efficient and subverts our monitoring coordination. Please change the sequence so our Forrester will do preliminary work before plans are drawn to coordinate this and any project.

At the Planning Meeting, the WOEC Commissioners will be present to coordinate with the Board and the Developer. If you have questions, please call m to coordinate. My cell # is 973 943 6693.

Mike Brick,Chairman, WOEC