# SCJ ALLIANCE CONSULTING SERVICES 

October 9, 2017

## City of Olympia

Community Planning \& Development
$6014^{\text {th }}$ Ave E.
Olympia WA 98506

## RE: Alternative Landscape Plan Request

The Views on $5^{\text {th }}$ Ave.

To Whom it may concern,

This letter is to formally request a deviation from the requirements set forth in Chapter 18.36, Landscaping and Screening and provide an Alternative landscape plan for approval. The reason for this request is the site can not comply with the requirements based on the prior development, it's location in the urban core, the vehicle circulation required for City Services (garbage \& fire) and tenants makes it infeasible to apply the conditions of this chapter. Since the site access is so constricted we are unable to provide the required number of trees required in the code.

We propose to offset the traditional code requirements by supplanting additional design features throughout nonbuilt areas.
18.36.180 B. 1 Screening Strips; $5^{\prime}$ of landscaping is required between all parking and adjacent properties. This criteria is not met with the surface parking adjacent to the neighboring parking lot. In order to maintain access by city services for fire and trash a reduction in the buffer is needed and why a minimum distance was provided. Enlarging this distance or adjusting the parking area would eliminate access by these vehicles to the north side of the building. Per Code 18.36 .180 the proposed parking area therefore would require a $445 \mathrm{sq} . \mathrm{ft}$. buffer. Our landscape plan provides a 720 sq. ft. landscape buffer around the proposed temporary parking and is averaged larger than the 5' required width. 18.36.160 Commercial landscape requirements, A. Perimeter Landscape. Perimeter landscape strips may be averaged, provided the minimum width is not less than fifty (50) percent of the standard width requirement and the intent and purpose of screening is achieved. This parking is proposed to be temporary parking only. This parking is being proposed for use only during day time hours. This parking has been provided to ease parking along the street and will be signed for future tenant parking and deliveries only. Additional trees have been added to the buffer to provide additional screening of the area limit its impact on adjacent sites. Vehicular access will be controlled and allow closure of sections of the woonerf to cars with bollards.

Per 18.36.060, K. Pedestrian Facilities. Pedestrian facilities, transit stops, and barrier free access may be allowed in required landscape areas without requiring additional buffer area, provided the intent of this Chapter is met and that the function and safety of the pedestrian facility, transit stop or barrier free facility is not compromised. We will be providing the first woonerf in Olympia. The woonerf provides public outdoor recreational space for walking and biking that can be used by tenants and serve parking structures and key circulation for city services. The woonerf allows access to and from the proposed buildings in all areas by foot and bicycle traffic. This will increase safety and use which currently does not exist in the downtown core's narrow asphalt alley ways. The woonerf includes pedestrian accent paving, landscaping and plaza spaces. The woonerf will encourage outdoor space to be used by proposed tenants and businesses. Raised planters that can be used as both seat walls and elevated landscape areas will soften edges of buildings and provide visual interest. The entrance to the parking garage includes greenscreen trellis to allow for plantings to grow up the building. These vertical trellises will soften the façade, provide additional landscape and allow clear site triangles as vehicles are leaving the parking area. Additional trees have been provided in tree grates to allow the north south woonerf to be accessed by bicycle and

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pedestrians, incorporating additional landscaping and adding shade. Requiring trees be in the code required 144 sq.ft. planting area would make this area less accessible for bikes and pedestrians and greatly reduce the amount of plaza area that can be used for businesses and residences. The code does not specifically prohibit them, adding additional trees to the smaller perimeter landscape areas would not be beneficial for the survival of the tree or the structural problems that are associated with trees planted to close to foundations, curbs or walks.

We believe based on the above deviations that our plan should be considered as a modification from the landscaping requirements and reviewed as an alternative landscape plan. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Trent Grantham, PLA









(9) SHRUB SPRAY HIGHPOP MARLEX ASSEMBLY $\qquad$ (10) $\frac{\text { QUICK COUPLING VALVE IN BOX }}{112 \pi=1.0}$

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 10. ALL THREADED PIPE CONNECTIONS SHALL EE MADE USING TELLON TAPE

WRAPPED AT LEAST THREE TMES AROUND PIPE THREADS.



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