



March 24, 2021

Ms. Melissa del Rosario
IL IDOT Review
IL 22 Landscape – Long Grove
Section 20-Y, Contract 60N10
Landscape Plan and Special Provisions (dated 4/30/2020, revision 5/5/2020)
Review Comments:

Dear Ms. Rosario,

Please find below your comments regarding our proposed landscape plans for the Long Grove IL Route 22 roadway widening, followed by our replies of clarification in *red*:

1. Master Plant Schedule

- a. Acer ginnala 'Flame' may not be planted according to Executive Order 13112. No federal monies may be used to plant invasive species on state routes.
Will substitute another species. Acer Ginnala selected for its cultural characteristics- ideal shape and form, outstanding fall color, screening capabilities, salt tolerance, adaptability to soils and shade tolerance. However, will select another species.
- b. Recommend finding an alternate ornamental tree for Halesia caroliniana. IDOT encountered problems with securing the plant material and the quantity locally on other state projects.
Reduce quantity by 50%, consider contracting with local grower through competitive bid process for quantity of 46 trees and substitute another plant species for 46 trees.
- c. Recommend finding an alternate tree for Malus 'Prairifire'. The crabapple does not look aesthetically pleasing in August. The tree's canopy is ½ to 2/3 defoliated into late summer. Choose a better selection.
Will reduce quantity to use in only select locations for best horticultural outcome, and incorporate another crab of similar characteristics. However, 'Prairifire' is a native cultivar and we have not noticed defoliation in other projects where we have specified this native crab.
- d. Recommend finding an alternate for Physocarpus opulifolius 'Summer Wine'. Current inventory at local nurseries do not reflect the demand of project.
Will choose another selection, however, 'Summer Wine' is native and we are only specifying 32 plants. We can contract for growing some of this species along with another native shrub of similar characteristics within the installation time frame.
- e. Recommend choosing different sizes for plant species to prevent shortages in local nursery stock.
Will check with local nurseries for recommended sizes and availabilities.
- f. Recommend choosing 1 GAL for Panicum cultivars. 5 GAL is not commonly found in the nursery trade.
Agree, "typo" on sheet, will change to 1 GAL.

2. Landscape Plan Sheets

- a. Retaining walls and wetlands are located within certain areas of the project. Consider the placement of the appropriate plant material. Mark ups on plans do not reflect all retaining walls and wetlands.

At present, we do not have IDOT plans showing retaining walls. Upon receipt of these plans, we will rearrange plantings accordingly.

- b. Provide sight lines for the motoring public near driveways. Plantings with mature heights of greater than 30" should not be planted within 20' of the driveway (both sides) and have a setback of a minimum of 4' from behind of edge of pavement. This is a general rule of thumb.

All sight line setbacks are accounted for. Plans are drawn at 1"=40' and are difficult to see clearly this provision has been met. In the installation contract, ALL plant layouts will require review and confirmation of locations by Landscape Architect prior to installation.

- c. Perennial/shrub/tree beds are located along the length of the project and are prevalent at ILL 22 and Old McHenry Road. Who will be maintaining these beds? IDOT will not be responsible for the maintenance and warranty of these plantings other than what is specified under the contract's provisions.

Plants were chosen for drought tolerance, salt tolerance and roadside durability. Contractor will have a 3-5 yr. maintenance contract including replacements throughout the duration of their maintenance contract for the project.

- d. Sheet L-1: Landscape median plan is missing.

Planting labels will be provided (layer frozen when printed).

- e. Sheet L-2: STA 127+00 to STA 132+00 (north side of ILL 22) plantings encroach on private property. Plantings may need to be revised unless the Village has received permission to plant beyond the R.O.W.

Original intention to work with property owner for permission and installation agreement for cooperative landscape enhancement and maintenance.

- f. Sheet L-3: IDOT is supplementing the native seeding specified in the detention area with plugs. Recommend diversifying with other oak species (i.e. Hill's Oak, Red Oak, Chinkapin Oak) around the basin.

Will diversify Oak selections with those suggested.

- g. Sheets L-4 & L-5: The proposed plantings designed along the length of Heron Creek (Lake County Forest Preserve District – LCFPD) are not desired. LCFPD had already provided their input on IDOT's landscape design submitted in 2018/2019 and had approved the plant palette.

Will replace Heron Creek plantings with LCFPD plan (did not have LCFPD plan at the time).

- h. Sheets L-4 & L-5: Plant beds with shrubs and perennials require high maintenance (weekly watering, weeding, and replacements). These beds are prevalent near the intersection of Old McHenry Road and ILL 22 especially around the Long Grove Commons. Who will be assuming the responsibility of maintenance of these various plantings? The designed plantings around Long Grove Commons should take into the context of existing plantings and any proposed traffic signs. Proposed planting should maintain a buffer zone between the back of curb and the plants to account for snow removal and access for maintenance staff to take care of plantings. Overhead utility lines should be considered as well.

Landscape contractor will have a 3-5 yr. maintenance contract. All plants have been selected for durability, soils, shade and salt tolerance. Final locations require contractor and Landscape Architect to layout, review and approve all beds prior to installation for proper coordination with existing landscape enhancements and existing features, including signs and overhead utility lines.

- i. Sheet L-6: Contract 60N10 shall follow current IDOT Standard Specifications Book.
IDOT standard specifications will be the overriding specification for the project.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments for clarification. We will make the changes identified for your review in a timely fashion. I look forward to working with you through the development of these plans and to hearing from you soon.

Very Truly Yours,



Daniel D. Dalziel, PLA, ASLA
Principal