

From: [Kate Kelly](#)
To: [Mitchel Cypes](#); [Alex Weinhagen](#)
Subject: PR&R feedback
Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:34:47 PM

Mitch,

Thanks for taking our comments back to the developer and the DRB. We discussed last night as a full commission, and here are our comments:

1. we'd recommend additional planting along the corridor, as the idea of this planting is to shield wildlife using the wildlife corridor from view, and to provide cover for those animals to feel comfortable moving through there. It should also provide some shielding from light, noise, etc. Instead of planting ball and burlap arborvitae (which are expensive), they could put in bareroot stems that are less expensive at \$5-10 each. They could also, or alternatively, add additional arborvitae at a spacing of 6-10' on center to create more of a hedge. See below details from one of our members with her recommendations:

For good screening that would allow visual barrier from the human gaze, I would recommend a mix of Vermont native evergreen trees and deciduous shrubs that would do well in an upland setting, offer wildlife value, and arguably be more attractive over time by offering flowers and berries and bringing in birds.

- Thuja occidentalis (White Cedar/Arborvitae)
- Pinus strobus (White Pine)
- Cornus racemosa (Grey Dogwood)
- Viburnum lentago (Nannyberry)
- Prunus virginiana (Chokecherry)

Seedlings should be planted 6 ft apart (I would recommend planting 2 rows offset from each other) to create an attractive, but natural looking hedge that will fill in over time. These species could all be sourced inexpensively from conservation nurseries. These species will likely be available from the [Intervale Conservation Nursery](#) in Burlington for around \$10 each for 2-4' bareroot plants (or definitely from other conservation nurseries if ICN sells out, order early). These would be available spring only and would be far easier and cheaper to plant than larger stock and if offered minimal care including trimming weeds around them and some watering for the first few months of establishment especially if the spring is dry would likely catch up quickly and provide much better cover than larger Arborvitae planted 30 ft apart.

I estimate this recommendation would save a considerable sum on this planting vs 6' potted arborvitae planted on 30 foot centers, as these can be very expensive to buy, deliver and have planted compared with bareroot stock. I estimate you could

save about half the cost.

2. Upsize the culvert mentioned at the hearing instead of using double pipes

3. the e-mail chain from Jason re: wetlands seem fine, but I assume this will be part of the final decision (e.g. noting what they will need to get still from the state level, including Wetlands permit (if needed), Stormwater permit, approval re: cutting potential bat trees, etc.)

Thank you!

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