

# KALA

Karen Arent Landscape Architect

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**To:** Chairman Donald Serotta and the Town of Chester Planning Board

**From:** Karen Arent, Landscape Architect

**Date:** August 18, 2015

**Subject:** Suresky & Sons

**Consultant:** Esposito & Associates, Engineering & Surveying Properties PC

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## COMMENTS:

1. There will be a view into the car parking lot from Kings Highway and the library, across storm water management area C1. The view is between the natural berm to approximately 310' northeast of the southerly property line, adjacent to and along the existing gate and fence. Screen planting should be shown in this area or incorporated into the storm water management planting if possible.
2. There will be views into the site while traveling south on Kings Highway in the northern corner of the property, from just north of the gate on the O&R substation driveway to approximately the third telephone pole south of the gate. There is a dense thicket of Cedar trees exist west of the utility easement line that could provide adequate screening if a dense stand of trees can be preserved. They do not appear to be slated for preservation by the current plan because the line of existing trees to remain is shown only 10' into the site from the utility easement line. The Cedar thicket follows the utility easement line but appears to exist deeper inside the site than 10' from the line. The existing Cedar thicket should be accurately shown on the drawing to determine if it is possible to save a dense enough width of trees to provide adequate screening. If it is possible to preserve the Cedar trees and existing meadow vegetation in this area, it should be clearly delineated on the drawing. If it is not possible to preserve these trees, new screening should be proposed.
3. Tree preservation areas should be shown on the grading plan to make sure no grading operations occur where trees are proposed to be saved. Tree preservation notes should be included on the grading plan.
4. There are more views into the site between the third and fourth telephone pole from the O&R substation driveway. Norway Spruces are shown on the landscape plan, planted 20' apart. This does not provide sufficient screening. Evergreen trees should be planted closer together and shrubs should be planted to help the screen planting to fill in quickly. Hetz Junipers planted along the substation property are doing quite well and appear natural. They could be a nice evergreen shrub to fill in gaps to provide quicker screening of the parked cars.
5. Specifications for screen planting should account for thin soils. Red Cedar stands in this area usually indicate thin, poor soils often on top of shale. Since this property used to be

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*Comments Suresky, Town of Chester*  
*Dated August 18, 2015 continued*

a mine, this is probably the case. Wherever new planting is proposed, planting details should show raised planting beds to provide adequate soil depth for large trees and shrubs to grow.