

Project: Project Name & (eB #)

Key Design Issues

- Landscape design should be: functional, sustainable, aesthetic, and low maintenance
- Plan for mechanized snow equipment access and snow piling to avoid landscape damage
- Design for all weather site accessibility for service, fire/safety, solid waste/recycling, and maintenance vehicles.
- Provide convenient site water sources as appropriate
- Surface and sub-surface site drainage is critical (lawn & pavement grades should be 2+% where possible)

Pre-empting Typical Shortcomings

- Has the team (typically Grounds – those that will steward and maintain this landscape) been involved in reviewing the design? If not, seek to get them engaged.
- Does the site design adequately accommodate anticipated pedestrian movements?
- Are the walkways sized appropriately for the anticipated pedestrian volume (min 6' width, 8' preferred)?
- How will bicyclists use the proposed walkways? Is that acceptable?
- Does the design provide adequate bicycle storage distributed in locations where it is likely to be most wanted?
- Does the design provide for clear separation of vehicles and pedestrians?

- Is the paving layout vulnerable to cut-corners, trampled plantings or damaged turf? Consider expanding paving and/or installing vertical features (curbs, bollards, posts-and-chains, walls, etc.) for channeling pedestrian or vehicular movement.
- What is the approach to collecting trash and recycling for this site? Consider localized hub with dumpsters and large recycling bins.

Site Preparation

- Do the design documents provide adequate protection for key landscape assets such as soil and existing trees? E.g. is required excavation and layback for subsurface utilities and structures accurately represented?
- For salvaged and stockpiled topsoil, do the project specifications provide appropriate limits on the storage of topsoil to prevent compaction and loss of structure?
- What is the plan for protecting soils retained in place during construction?
- Does the design call for adequate tree protection fencing? Is the fencing laid out to protect all of the critical root zones of existing-to-remain trees? Will the type of proposed fencing provide an adequate barrier to keep out construction activity?
- Do project specifications provide appropriate conditions for any construction activities that must take place within the tree protection zone?
- Does the site preparation plan show adequate area for construction access, staging and materials storage?

Seasonal Needs

- Does the landscape layout allow space up against buildings for staging building maintenance, e.g. window washing if needed? Is there an accessible water supply for seasonal cleaning?
- Are the paths wide enough for the snowplow equipment that will be used? Are there stairs or curbs that impair access? Or will the snow have to be removed specifically using hand shovels, brooms and snow-blowers?

- Is the proposed pavement system vulnerable to damage from plow blades (for example, unit pavers on sand beds and aggregate bases are more prone to uneven settling and lippage, which in turn catch blades and get damaged or snowmelt (e.g. sedimentary stone, porous concrete, iron/steel)?
- Does the design provide a logical area for snow storage? Is this area large enough?
- Does the design provide for establishment period watering?
- Does the design provide a life-support system (irrigation or water supply) for plantings in a drought situation? This is particularly a concern for shallow green roof systems.