



Municipal Building
2261 Van Horne Road
(Route 206)
Belle Mead, NJ 08502
Tel. (908) 359-8211
Fax (908) 359-0970
TDD (908) 359-8211

Shade Tree Committee

TO: Planning Board

April 23, 2023

FROM: Ewa Zak
Shade Tree Committee

RE: HARLINGEN ASSOCIATES CASE # PB-03-23 B 6001 L 33,34,34.01, 35,35.01, 36

The committee has reviewed the plans for the above development and offers the following comments:

1. The number of proposed trees on the landscaping plan is far from what is required:
 - 421 trees will be cut down, more than twice the number of trees proposed
 - 206 trees will be planted
 - 105 trees are missing
2. This application should be held to the full ordinance standard. At 14 trees per acre of the total area of the 22.1891 property, the number of trees required is 311, still much less than what will be cut down (and some of those trees are quite large).
3. The 105 missing trees should be used to:
 - add more screening of Rt. 206
 - add to the number of street trees
 - provide adequate buffer around the future pumping station
 - delineate and protect the conservation easement
 - protect the woods edge created by clearing, which otherwise would degrade by sudden exposure
4. Among large shrubs, 3 species dominate. There are 1121 inkberry, 601 mountain laurel, and 220 red twig dogwood. It might be safer to add more variety to prevent the spread of possible disease.
5. In our planting zone sweetbay is not evergreen and would better be placed in the ornamental table.