

February 14, 2023

## RE: Review of planting plan for 6950 SE Maker, PN-9350900620

To Whom It May Concern:

The Mercer Island City arborist requested two trees be planted to replace one which was removed according to Mercer Island City statute. The clients selected a pair of Pacific Crabapples, North American natives, which will offer decent habitat and nice color interest for most of the year.

This species is more tolerant of shade and wet conditions then its European cousins and should thrive in the area selected on the north side of the property. The only caveat is that deer love to browse on the tree so the new plants will have to be well protected to prevent predation from the hungry herd(s) which prowls the Island. Rabbits will chew on the lower bark and epicormic shoots that rise around the base and can gird young trees. Keeping the area clear of weeds and grasses for at least 3' radial will help prevent this kind of damage.

Laying down 3-5" deep of arbormulch around the trees about 4' out from their bases will provide good long term nutrition for the trees while helping to keep the weeds down.

The trees will need supplemental water for at least the first three years. Using watering bags, such as the TreeGator, will simply the hydration process. The bags 'leak' water at a set rate and can filled and then left for up to two weeks depending on the size and flow rate. Filling the bags can be done by hose either from a water truck or house spigot.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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