
RAGEN & Associates

517 E Pike St.
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 329-4737
kristin@ragenassociates.com

25th January 2023

Project Narrative: Replace existing driveway to improve fire safety access

Permit #: 2208-092

Parcel Number: 755870-0020

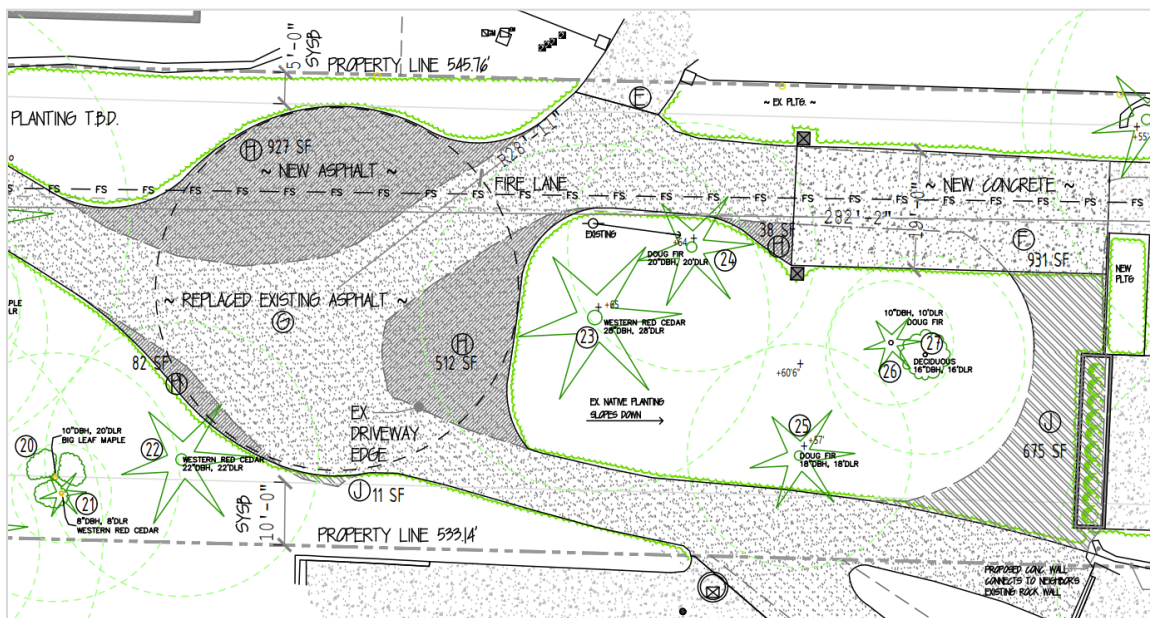
To Whom It May Concern,

The proposed plan for the owner of 4624 E Mercer way is to replace the existing driveway with a new driveway configuration that would significantly improve fire safety access. We've had our initial design review with Fire Marshall - Mr. Hicks to ensure we are meeting our primary goal, which is to maximize safety with very minimal changes to the surroundings. The current driveway configuration greatly obstructs and may even prevent fire truck access in case of emergency due to its limited width and various safety concerns. The single lane access creates occasional blockages from vehicle parkings along the driveway. It was not designed to withhold a fire truck's load capability and the road condition has worsened over the years from oversized vehicles and truck traffic. Additionally, a large portion of the current roadway is situated near a 5ft cliff without any barrier, where accidents have occurred in the past including fallen vehicles.



The proposed driveway configuration aims to significantly increase driveway width to provide better fire truck access while eliminating all safety concerns. The majority of the proposed driveway configuration already has existing asphalt with even less incline than the current driveway, so only minimal changes to nearby landscape are needed (no trees will be removed). Installation of new asphalt will be capable of bearing the weight of 78,000 GVWR as recommended by the Fire Marshall. The maximum width of the proposed driveway is 62' compared to only 12' in the current configuration, which will provide ample space for emergency vehicle access and parking.

	Proposed Driveway	Current Driveway
Driveway MAX Width	62' max	12' 7" max
Driveway MIN Width	20' min	10' min
Load Capability	Withstand 78,000 GVWR	Cannot withstand 78,000 GVWR



The Geotechnical report from GEO Group Northwest concluded that the proposed driveway modifications are to be constructed on relatively flat areas at the project site, and subsurface soils supporting the proposed driveway modifications are anticipated to consist of dense, non glacial soils, that, as pointed out in the geotechnical report, are not susceptible to landslide activity (MICC 19.07.160.B2). In addition, the arborist report from Seattle Tree Care concluded that the proposal will not cause long-term damage or negative consequences to the tree and root systems since no significant trees will be removed in the project.

We believe that the proposed driveway configuration represents a significant improvement over the existing driveway configuration. It addresses all the safety and accessibility concerns for the owner as well as emergency vehicles and the surrounding

neighbors. No subdivision is involved and all work will be performed within the private land of 4624 E Mercer Way, which we anticipate little to no disruption to the flow of traffic during construction.

Sincerely,

Kristin DeRose