



CITY OF BEXLEY TREE & PUBLIC GARDENS COMMISSION APPLICATION STAFF REVIEW

Project Name: TPGC-23-4 St. Charles Plaza
 Project Address: 2010 E. Broad St.
 Reviewed by: Elena Andrews
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 626-676-3330
 Date: 6-15-2023

	Project Description	Completed	Incomplete	Missing	N/A
1a	Application	X			
1b	Project Description	X			
	Research				
2a	Significant examples				X
	Design Documentation Drawings				
3a	Existing conditions photographs	X			
3b	Site plan or location plan	X			
3c	Schematic plan with north arrow and bar scale	X			
3d	Elevations, perspectives, isometrics, axonometrics or detailed model	X			
3e	Existing City trees indicated on plan	X			
3f	Proposed vegetation	X			
	Recommended information				
4a	Irrigation and maintenance plans				X
4b	Hardscape layout and materials	X			
4c	Lighting locations and specifications				X
4d	Fixtures, furniture and equipment				X
4e	Accessories				X
4f	Buildings				X
4g	Other				X

Comments *(Italicized comments are from previous review)*

4g The Tree Commission first reviewed this project on 3/23/22 under the application number TPGC-22-1 St. Charles Convocation Center Landscape. The project was approved with the condition that the applicant obtain staff review and approval for the two waterfall features on either side of the grotto.

During construction of the Convocation Center, the plaza was redesigned. This application TPGC-23-4 is a revision to the original approved landscape plan under TPGC-22-1. While some landscape elements are the same as the original application, there is enough of a difference that it was determined it should be reviewed by the Tree Commission.

In the revised landscape plan, the large hardscape plaza with a central lawn area between the Convocation Center and Performing Arts Center has been replaced with a series of circular beds, hardscape plaza, pedestrian paths, and lawn. The original plan had no trees or shrubs in the area. The revised plan has (10) new trees – a variety of Redpoint Maples, Princeton Elms, and Wildfire Black Gums. This will provide desirable shade to the plaza as well as increase the overall tree canopy for the area. A variety of site appropriate shrubs and perennials formally define the circles.

Another significant change in the plan is that the Performing Art Center not longer is attached to the main building. There is a new semicircular plaza that has (5) new Serviceberry trees to match the (4) existing as well as a formal row of boxwood and hydrangea shrubs. There are site appropriate plantings around the foundation of the Performing Arts Center. The plan indicates (9) symbols that are not identified on the north and west side of the building which will need clarification.

The foundation planting around the Convocation Center has not changed from the previously approved TPGC-22-1 plan.

The final change in the application is the shape of the plaza in front of the Grotto. The plaza has changed from an oval to a circle, in keeping with the circular theme. A variety of existing plant material is to remain in the area with a total of (33) or (34) trees added. (There is a discrepancy in the quantity of River Birch shown on the plan versus in the planting schedule.) There are a few symbols on the plan that are not clearly identified as to the type of plant material. A variety of site appropriate shrubs and perennials define the circle and entry to the Grotto. The final design of the waterfalls is still underway, and sketches have been provided to staff for review per the original Findings of Fact.

The submitted elevations only show a north and east view of the main plaza. There is not a south view looking at the Performing Arts Center.

It is the staff recommendation to approve the landscape plan with the following conditions: clarify the symbols on the plan for the plaza and grotto that are not identified and provide an elevation looking south towards the Performing Arts Center. These items are to be reviewed and approved by staff within the next 30 days.