

CITY OF BEXLEY TREE & PUBLIC GARDENS COMMISSION APPLICATION STAFF REVIEW

Project Name: TPGR-24-6 Private Residence

Project Address: 81 N. Drexel Ave Reviewed by: Elena Andrews

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Date: 9-13-24

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

Comments (Italicized comments are from previous review)

- **3e** Tree protection is required on the (4) City trees along Drexel Ave for the duration of construction. Per the plans, there will be significant removal of existing plant material as well as installation of new and protection of the street trees from vehicles and material storage is necessary.
- 4a Although not required, will the project to irrigated to ensure the health of the new plantings?
- 4g TPGR-24-6 81 N. Drexel Ave is coming before the Tree Commission at the request of the Architectural Review Board (BZAP-21-47 dated 11-11-21) and City Council (City Council Appeal No. 22-1 dated 9-13-22). The Decision and Record of Actions allowed the pool, pool house and fence in the front yard subject to review and approval by the Tree and Public Gardens Commission.

Overall, the landscape plan provides a robust planting plan that maintains some of the mature trees between the pool house and property line. Sheets L-7.01 and L-7.05 are the relevant landscape plans to review. The remaining sheets of the proposed landscape plan are not included in this staff review.

The (3) existing trees adjacent to the pool house are noted to be saved and protected but no tree protection fencing is called out. The foundations of the wall, columns and base of the terrace fall within the drip line of (2) of the trees. It is recommended that a continuous line of tree protection fencing be provided as far away from the trunks as possible that runs west to east from the property line to the new pool fence and parallel to the pool house. Its placement should allow adequate space for the digging of the foundations and pool house construction. This will hopefully limit root damage and prevent equipment and material storage in their drip lines or near their trunks.

The west and southern property lines will be well screened with a variety of evergreen material that will be planted at larger than typical sizes which will have an immediate impact. Care has been taken to provide (2) different installation sizes of the American Holly (12-14' and 14-16'), Norway Spruce (12-14' and 16-18') and Green Giant Arborvitae (12-14' and 14-16') which will provide a more natural effect.

A formal evergreen hedge of Hicks Yew will screen the metal fence along the property line and a hornbeam hedge will screen the pool fence from the rest of the front yard, effectively making the fences disappear.

An appropriate selection of Azalea, Rhododendron, Boxwood, Fothergilla, Hydrangea and Viburnum will provide a variety of texture, color, and height to the perimeter beds. The perennials chosen to infill the perimeter beds as well as the formal beds defined by boxwood near the pool and pool house are appropriate to the site and its conditions.

Staff recommends approval of the landscape plan as presented with the following conditions: 1) The City trees along Drexel Ave be protected per the City of Bexley Standards; 2) During the construction of the pool and pool house, the existing trees adjacent to the pool house be protected by fencing that runs from the property line to the pool fence line, parallel to the pool house, and meets the City of Bexley Standards.