



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Rhode Island Department of Transportation
ENGINEERING DIVISION
Two Capitol Hill, Rm. 226
Providence, RI 02903-1124
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FAX 401-222-3006; TDD 401-222-4971

October 28, 2010

Diane C. Mederos, Administrator
Town of Bristol
10 Court Street
Bristol, RI 02809-2208

Re: 1R Improvements to Hope Street (Rt 114)
From Thames Street to Constitution Avenue; 'Downtown' Bristol
RI Contract No. 2000-EH-004
RIFAP No. STP-DESN(001)
Tree Dispositions

Dear Ms. Mederos:

The Department and Town have conducted extensive work related to the street trees along the subject project corridor. In addition to several meetings with the Town, the Tree Commission and the Conservation Commission, an assessment of the street trees was conducted by a licensed arborist and landscape architect. Supplemental Scientific studies were also conducted on a limited number of trees. Based on the meetings, studies and assessment, a list of tree removals and a list of potential tree removals was developed. The Town was asked to evaluate, discuss and make recommendations on the disposition of the potential tree removals.

We have reviewed the Town and Commission recommendations and have the following to offer:

- Request from the Tree Commission to keep Pear tree at Station 210+98 LT (420 Hope St) which was on the list of tree removals. Upon further review, it was realized that there was an error in the stationing. The tree that is to be removed is at Station 211+30 LT.
- Request from the Tree Commission to remove the 'questionable trees' at Stations 213+53 RT (Cherry -St. Michael's courtyard), 218+14 RT (315/317 Hope St). The Department has no issues and will revise the plans accordingly.
- Request from the Tree Commission to keep the 'questionable trees' at Stations 209+62 RT (443 Hope St), 213+09 RT (Maple -St. Michael's courtyard), 216+14 LT (b/w 344 and 360 Hope St), 219+69 LT (290 Hope St), and 219+74 RT (281 Hope St) and pruning dead wood in the upper branches. The Department has no issues and will revise the plans accordingly.
- Request to change tree replacement at Station 215+13 LT (Town tree) from Zelkova to Honey Locust. The Department has no issues with this request and will revise the plans accordingly.

To: Diane Mederos
From: Vincent J. Palumbo, P.E.
Re: IR Improvements to Hope Street (Route 114), 'Downtown'
Date: October 28, 2010
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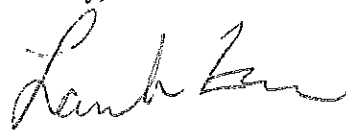
- Request to change tree replacement at Station 212+46 RT from Acer rubrum 'October Glory' to a columnar variety of red maple. It has been the Department's intent to replace/restore the tree canopy that currently exists to maintain the project's designation as a Scenic Roadway and an Historic District. We believe that a columnar variety would be an adverse change and therefore stand with the originally proposed type of tree.
- Request that RIDOT attempt to save the Little Leaf linden tree at Station 215+86 RT (361 Hope St) by pruning and cabling. This tree has several deficiencies including a large horizontal cavity. A 'hazardous tree inspection' was conducted on this tree. A minimum of 9 inches of sound wood surrounding decay columns is required before a tree is considered to have a severe defect. The inspection revealed that there was only an average of 7.6 inches of sound wood which is significantly less (15%) than the minimum. The Department has received a recommendation from a licensed arborist to remove this tree since it poses a high risk to public health and property. Since the Town has indicated that it does not intend to be responsible for the tree should it remain, the Department will proceed with removal of the tree.
- Request removal of the tree at Station 213+87 RT (St. Michael's Church) that was not proposed for removal. A letter was recently sent to you concerning this request. Until such time that the removal of this tree receives all of the necessary regulatory approvals, it will remain as is on the plans.

Additional changes resulted from the field meeting concerning the historic lighting as follows:

- Addition of a new tree at the northern terminus of the project in front of 740 Hope Street.
- Decision to not replace the tree at Station 212+17 RT at the corner of John Street and Hope Street. The attendees of the field meeting agreed to move the light originally proposed at the northwest corner to the southwest corner and eliminate the proposed tree.
- Move proposed tree from in front of house #711 to house #707.
- Addition of a new tree approximate to Station 200+75 RT.

We ask for the Town's approval to remove two trees on Town property directly adjacent to the project limits. The two trees, a Horse Chestnut at Station 215+13 L and a Norway maple at Station 217+14 LT, are in decline and the Department is willing to replace them as part of this project. Based on the above, and the assumption that the Town will approve the removal of the Town trees, we have revised the Summary of Tree Removal table (copy attached). If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact myself or Luanne Nevitt, P.E., at 222-2023, extension 4049 or 4052, respectively.

Sincerely,


Vincent J. Palumbo, P.E.
Managing Engineer/Road Design

VJP/lkn
Attachment

cc: Messrs. Farhoumand, Healey, Palumbo, Smith(all w/o attachment); File (w/attachment)

Summary of Tree Removal and Disposal as of 10/28/10

Station	Street ID	2003 ID	2009 ID	Type
188+22 LT	between 736 & 730	489	517	Little leaf linden
188+79 RT	between 727 & 725	183	173	Norway maple
190+45 RT	north end of 719	187	176	Little leaf linden
191+36 RT	north end of 711	190	179	Amur maple
194+79 LT	south end of 686	505	501	Silver maple
197+84 LT	north end of 652	509	497	White mulberry
197+94 RT	between 649 & 647	200	188	Horse chestnut
198+31 LT	south end of 652	512	494	Norway maple
198+99 RT	in front of 631	202	189	Norway maple
205+73 RT	in front of 515	209	197	Japanese zelkova
207+93 RT	in front of 473/471/467	214	202	Red maple
209+20 LT	in front of 464	537	469	Callery Pear Bradford
211+30 LT	south end of 420	545	461	Callery Pear Bradford
211+14 LT	north end of 420	544	462	Callery Pear Bradford
212+17 RT	north end of 407/409	219	207	Red maple
212+46 RT	south end of 407/409	220	208	Norway maple
213+53 RT	St. Michael's courtyard	223	211	Cherry
215+13 LT (TOWN)	Church Street	N/A	N/A	Horse chestnut
215+86 RT	in front of 361	227	214	Little leaf linden
216+31 RT	south end of 353	229	216	Norway maple
216+55 RT	north end of 341	230	217	Freeman maple
217+14 LT (TOWN)	Byfield Street	N/A	N/A	Norway maple
218+14 RT	between 315 & 317	233	220	Callery Pear Bradford
218+53 LT	between 314 & 300	558	448	Little leaf linden
219+95 LT	north end of 278/276	560	446	Norway maple
220+37 RT	south end of 275	237	225	Norway maple
220+68 RT	south of 275	238	226	Norway maple