

WALMART SITE PLAN 10-42

WALMART, SITE PLAN 10-42

Consideration of the request of Walmart Stores East LP, Inc. for a recommendation to City Council regarding the revised landscape plan for the east portion of the site bordering Town Center Drive. The subject property is located in Section 14, at the northwest corner of Eleven Mile Road and Town Center Drive, in the TC, Town Center District. The subject property is approximately 12.8 acres and the applicant has constructed an approximately 149,000 square foot Walmart store. The applicant has installed landscaping in accordance with the previously-approved plan. The applicant has now proposed additional landscape screening between the loading zone and Town Center Drive to confirm the sufficiency of the planting plan in lieu of a decorative wall or fence.

Required Action

Recommend approval or denial of the revised landscape plan

REVIEW	RESULT	DATE	COMMENTS
Landscape	Approval recommended		Additional variety and quantity of landscape materials provided to screen the existing loading zone.

Approval - Revised Landscape Plan

In the matter of Walmart, SP 10-42, motion to **recommend approval** of the <u>revised</u> <u>landscape plan</u>, reaffirming the previous approval of enhanced plantings in lieu of a required wall or fence because nearby underground utilities/improvements present practical difficulties for installing such features; because the design of the site is enhanced by the proposed plantings while still meeting the intent of the ordinance; and because the plan is otherwise in compliance with Article 16, Article 24 and Article 25 and all other applicable provisions of the Zoning Ordinance, and any additional reasons here, if any....]

Denial – Revised Landscape Plan

In the matter of Walmart, SP 10-42 motion to recommend denial of the <u>revised</u> <u>landscape plan</u>, (because it is not in compliance with the following sections of the Zoning Ordinance....) LANDSCAPE REVIEW



PLAN REVIEW CENTER REPORT

August 2, 2012 <u>Revised Final Landscape Review</u> Walmart SP#10-42

<u>Petitioner</u> Walmart Stores East LP, Inc.

Review Type

Revised Final Landscape Plan

Property Characteristics

•	Site Location:	North of Eleven Mile Road, West of Town Center Drive (Section 14)	
٠	Site Zoning:	TC, Town Center	
٠	Adjoining Zoning:	North: TC; South (across Eleven Mile Road): TC; East (across Town Center Drive): OSC, Office Service Commercial; West: TC	
٠	Current Site Use:	New Walmart Store	
٠	Adjoining Uses:	North: various retail; South (across Eleven Mile Road): various retail and office; East (across Town Center Drive): office; West: various retail	
٠	School District:	Novi Community School District	
٠	Site Size:	12.8 acres	
٠	Plan Date:	August 2, 2012	

Project Summary

Walmart received a Special Land Use Permit and Site Plan Approval through the City Council on January 10, 2011. Construction on the facility has commenced with significant progress. As the site has reached final stages of development, an aspect of the approved landscape has been further reviewed. The east side of the new building is the loading area for the store. While a 3-foot wall or fence in this area could have been required by the City as part of the landscape plan, Walmart included the amenity of a well landscaped pocket park on the corner of Eleven Mile and Town Center Drive and various additional plantings along Town Center Drive. The Planning Commission and Council both scrutinized the plan and, as permitted by ordinance, allowed that planting plan in lieu of any wall or fence. Consideration was given to the grade change from Town Center Drive and the rear of the facility forming an effective buffer. Landscape requirements were bolstered and many evergreen trees were included to form an effective screen from Town Center Drive.

The landscape is now in place, and in response to inquiries, Walmart has given further consideration to augmenting the landscape screening on this east side of the building along Town Center Drive. Walmart has been most cooperative throughout on-site discussions with staff. The Applicant did provide a plan for the augmentation of this landscape buffer, and did respond to staff comments by adding still further landscape

materials and adjusting the proposed layout. The Applicant has provided the attached plan in response to staff comments and further discussion. The Planning Commission is asked to recommend approval this augmentation plan as an addition to the approved site plan.

Recommendation

Approval of the Revised Final Landscape Plan for SP#10-42 Walmart is recommended.

Landscape Augmentations

Features of the revised Final Landscape Plan include:

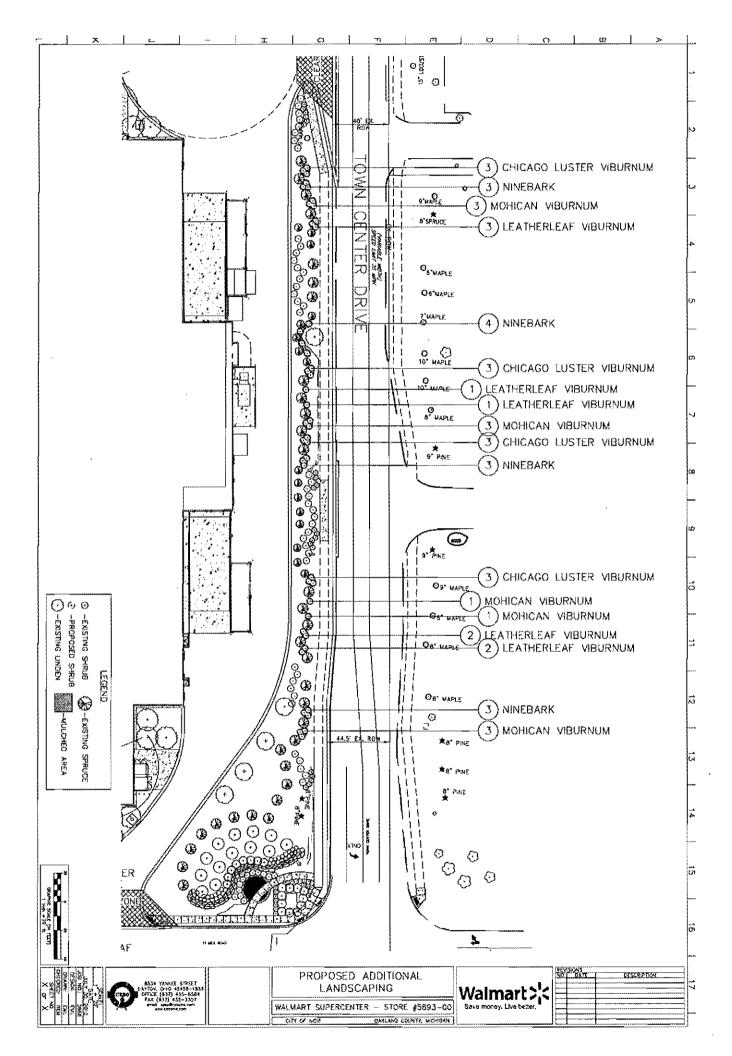
- A total of 40 additional large shrubs, upgraded from 22 shrubs shown on the original augmentation plan.
- Increased diversity of plant material to include a minimum of three species.
- The new shrubs will be grouped in mulched landscape beds for a cohesive look and for ease of long term maintenance.

Staff is strongly in support of the additional landscape as it will further enhance an effective and attractive landscape buffer at the loading area of the new facility. The additional landscape added at this time will have an immediate impact on the buffer qualities. As this landscape matures, the seasonal aesthetics and substantial screening will well serve Walmart, adjacent property owners and all members of the Novi community.

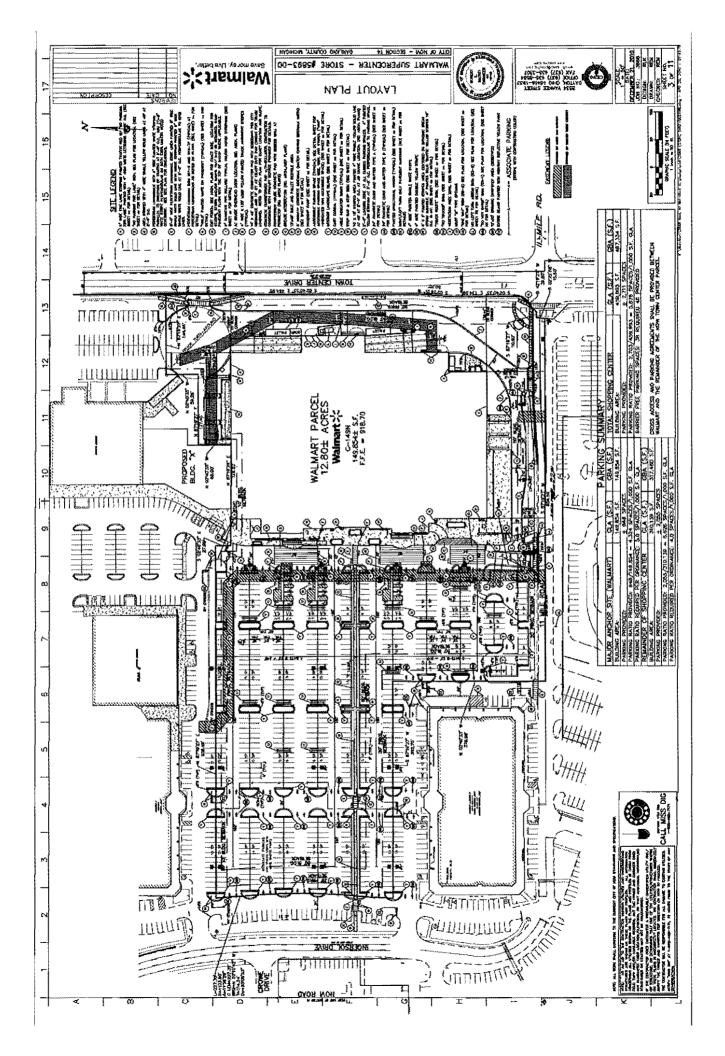
Please follow guidelines of the Zoning Ordinance and Landscape Design Guidelines. This review is a summary and not intended to substitute for any Ordinance. For the landscape requirements, see the Zoning Ordinance landscape section on 2509, Landscape Design Manual and the appropriate items in the applicable zoning classification.

Reviewed by: David R. Beschke, RLA ASLA

REVISED LANDSCAPE PLAN



APPROVED SITE PLAN



MAPS

Location/Alr Photo

