

MARCH 12, 2024

www.bscgroup.com

Arlington Conservation Commission
730 Mass Ave Annex
Arlington, MA 02476

**RE: Notice of Intent
SWCA Notice of Intent Restoration Plan Peer Review
Thorndike Place Residential Community
Dorothy Road, Arlington, MA**

Dear Members of the Arlington Conservation Commission:

On behalf of Arlington Land Realty, LLC (the Applicant), BSC Group, Inc. respectfully presents the attached Planting Plan, Sheet L-100, last revised 03/07/2024, to complete our response to SWCA's peer review report dated March 6, 2024. BSC submitted a proposed Invasive Species Management Plan (ISMP) to the Commission and to SWCA on March 7, 2024. During the public hearing on March 7, we discussed two outstanding SWCA comments regarding plant selections shown on the proposed planting plan. Herein we address these comments and for the record, each of SWCA's final comments.

SWCA Response 1: SWCA agrees with this response and approach. No further response required.

SWCA Response 2: SWCA recommends that the ISMP be submitted to the Commission and reviewed by an expert in the control of invasive species prior to the issuance of an OOC. Effective control of invasive plants is critical to the success of any ISMP and may require complex management methodologies given the extent and diversity of invasive species on the site. Review of the ISMP prior to OOC issuance ensures the ISMP will be effective and that the Commission has the ability to guarantee that the plan is adequate prior to permit issuance.

BSC submitted a proposed ISMP for peer review on March 7, 2024.

SWCA Response 3: No further response required.

SWCA Response 4: SWCA concur with these revisions. No further response required.

*SWCA Response 5: The proposed planting plan still includes multiple species that are not representative of the diversity and community structure of the adjacent habitats (e.g., Atlantic white cypress [*Chamaecyparis thyoides*] and others). SWCA recommends the planting plan be revised to include species that better represent the adjacent communities within the restoration area.*

Please refer to the attached Sheet L-100. No tree is proposed *within the restoration area or compensatory flood storage area* that is not specifically listed in SWCA Comment 5. BSC is providing a color-markup of the restoration planting sheet to clarify proposed species placements.

It should be noted that the planting plan is for the entire Project Site, including areas outside

of the Commission’s jurisdiction.

The proposed Woodland and Floodplain Restoration seed mixes are as follows:

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Butterfly Weed
<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Partridge Pea
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada Wild Rye
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	Virginia Wild Rye
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Green-headed Coneflower
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	Early Goldenrod
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indiangrass
<i>Symphyotrichum novi-belgii</i>	New York Aster
<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i>	Horseflyweed
<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	Showy Tick Trefoil
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	Flat-top Goldentop
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	Virginia Mountain Mint

SWCA Response 6: SWCA agrees with these revisions. No further response required.

SWCA Response 7: SWCA agrees with this approach. No further response required.

SWCA Response 8: No further response required.

SWCA Response 9: The revised planting plan continues to propose a number of cultivars within the 100-foot Buffer Zone. Other cultivars are still proposed in other areas of the site.

BSC has revised the proposed restoration planting plan to remove cultivars and has revised the proposed seed mixes for the restoration and compensatory flood storage areas to contain only native plants. The lawn areas seed mix has also been revised to contain only native species.

It should be noted that the planting plan is for the entire Project Site, including areas outside of the Commission’s jurisdiction. There is one plant proposed that is a non-native landscaping plant, but it is proposed to be located along the walking path between the buildings, outside of the Commission’s jurisdiction.

SWCA Response 10: This note does not appear to indicate that removal of any snags must be approved by the Commission.

SWCA recommends revising this note as to indicate that Commission approval is required for snag removal.

The Note on Sheets L-100 has been updated to state, “2. Remove all invasive species according

to ISMP; cut and remove (do not stump) all dead trees that pose a safety hazard to people or property as determined by Landscape Architect (LA) & Wildlife Ecologist (WE) with administrative approval of Conservation Commission; restore area with native tree, shrub, and grass plantings as directed by LA. Utilize cut plant materials to construct snags and wildlife habitats as directed by LA & WE.

We look forward to an opportunity to discuss these revisions with the Commission and its Peer Review consultant at the upcoming hearing. Mr. Groves will again be available to discuss the ISMP and is also available to answer questions that may come up during the hearing.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed information, please contact me at (617) 896-4594 or mburne@bscgroup.com. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

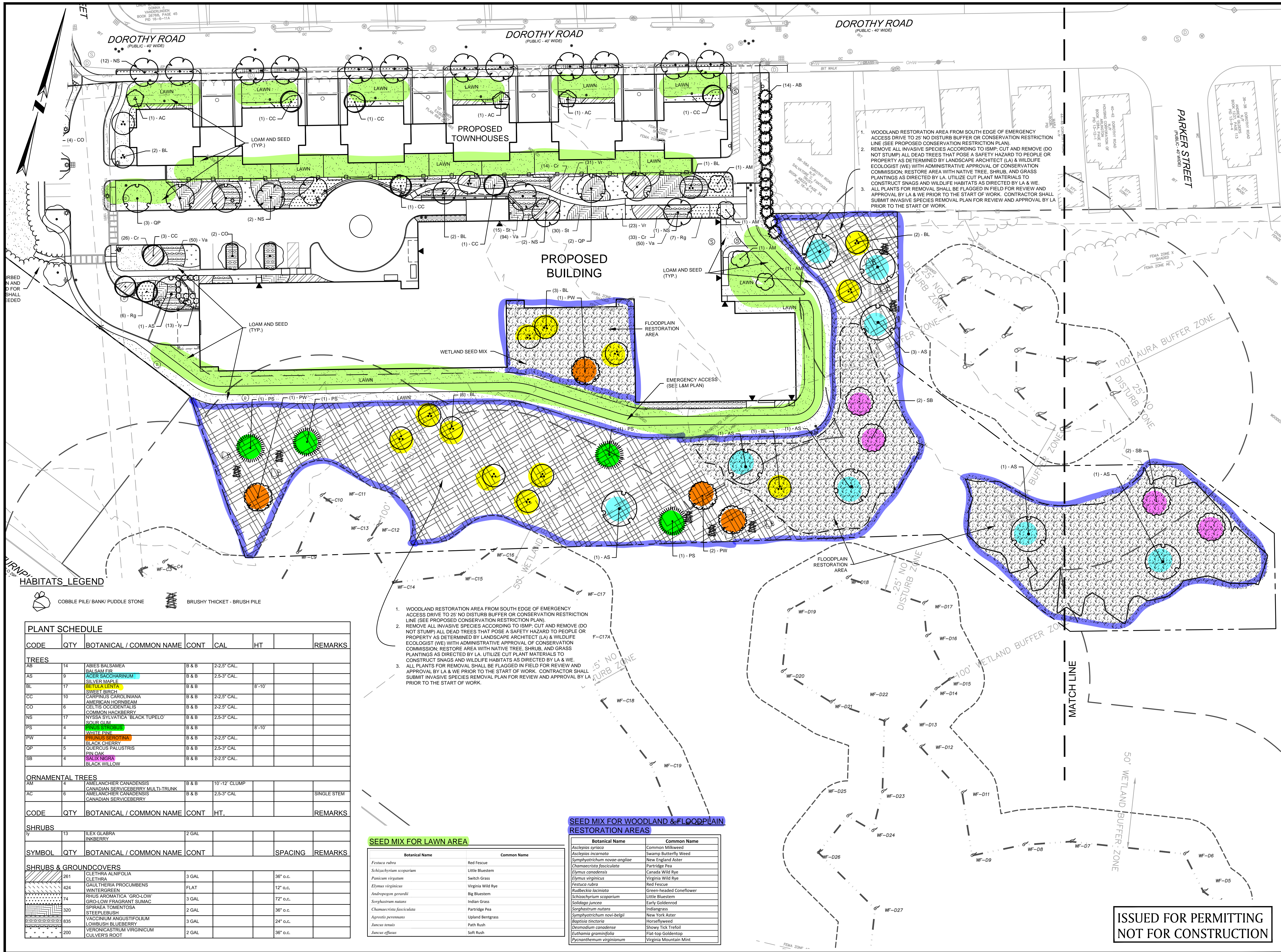
Thank you,
BSC Group, Inc.



Matt Burne, PWS
Senior Ecologist

cc: Stephanie Keifer

Enclosed: Sheet L-100
Sheet L-100, color mark up
Sheet L-101
Sheet L-101, color mark up



REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

THORNDIKE PLACE NOTICE OF INTENT

DOROTHY ROAD
IN
ARLINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS
(MIDDLESEX COUNTY)

PLANTING PLAN

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

REVISIONS:

NO.	DATE	DESC.
1	02/07/24	REV. RESTORATION AREA
2	03/07/24	REV. RESTORATION AREA

PREPARED FOR:
ARLINGTON LAND REALTY, LLC
84 SHERMAN STREET, 2ND FLOOR
CAMBRIDGE, MA

BSC GROUP
803 Summer Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02127
617 896 4300

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SCALE: 1" = 30'
0 15 30 60 FEET

FILE: \Civil\Drawings\2340700-LM
DWG.:
JOB. NO: 23407.02 SHEET L-100

ISSUED FOR PERMITTING
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

HABITATS LEGEND

- COBBLE PILE/BANK/PUDDLE STONE
- BRUSHY THICKET - BRUSH PILE

PLANT SCHEDULE

CODE	QTY	BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME	CONT	CAL	HT	REMARKS
TREES						
AB	14	ABIES BALSAMEA BALSAM FIR	B & B	2-2.5" CAL.		
AS	9	ACER SACCARINUM SILVER MAPLE	B & B	2.5-3" CAL.		
BL	17	BETULA LENTA BITTLE BIRCH	B & B		8'-10'	
CC	10	CARPINUS CAROLINIANA AMERICAN HORNBEAM	B & B	2-2.5" CAL.		
CO	8	CESTRIS OCCIDENTALIS COMMON HACKBERRY	B & B	2-2.5" CAL.		
NS	17	NYSSA SYLVATICA 'BLACK TUPELO' SOLEL GUM	B & B	2.5-3" CAL.		
PS	4	PRUNUS STRUBBIS WHITE BINE	B & B		8'-10'	
PW	4	PRUNUS SEROTINA BLACK CHERRY	B & B	2-2.5" CAL.		
QP	5	QUERCUS PALUSTRIS PIN OAK	B & B	2.5-3" CAL.		
SB	4	SALIX NIGRA BLACK WILLOW	B & B	2-2.5" CAL.		
ORNAMENTAL TREES						
AM	4	AMELANCHIER CANADENSIS CANADIAN SERVICEBERRY MULTI-TRUNK	B & B	10'-12' CLUMP		
AC	8	AMELANCHIER CANADENSIS CANADIAN SERVICEBERRY	B & B	2.5-3" CAL.		SINGLE STEM
CODE	QTY	BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME	CONT	HT.		REMARKS
SHRUBS						
IV	13	ILEX GLABRA INKBERRY	2 GAL			
SYMBOL	QTY	BOTANICAL / COMMON NAME	CONT		SPACING	REMARKS
SHRUBS & GROUNDCOVERS						
	261	GLEHNERIA ALNIFOLIA CLETHRA	3 GAL		36" o.c.	
	424	GAULTHERIA PROCUMBENS WINTERSGREEN	FLAT		12" o.c.	
	74	RUBUS AROMATICUS 'GRO-LOW' GRO-LOW FRAGRANT SUMAC	3 GAL		72" o.c.	
	320	SPIRAEA TOMENTOSA STEEPS EUBUSH	2 GAL		36" o.c.	
	835	VACCINIUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM LOWBUSH BLUEBERRY	3 GAL		24" o.c.	
	200	VERONICASTRUM VIRGINICUM GUILVER'S ROOT	2 GAL		36" o.c.	

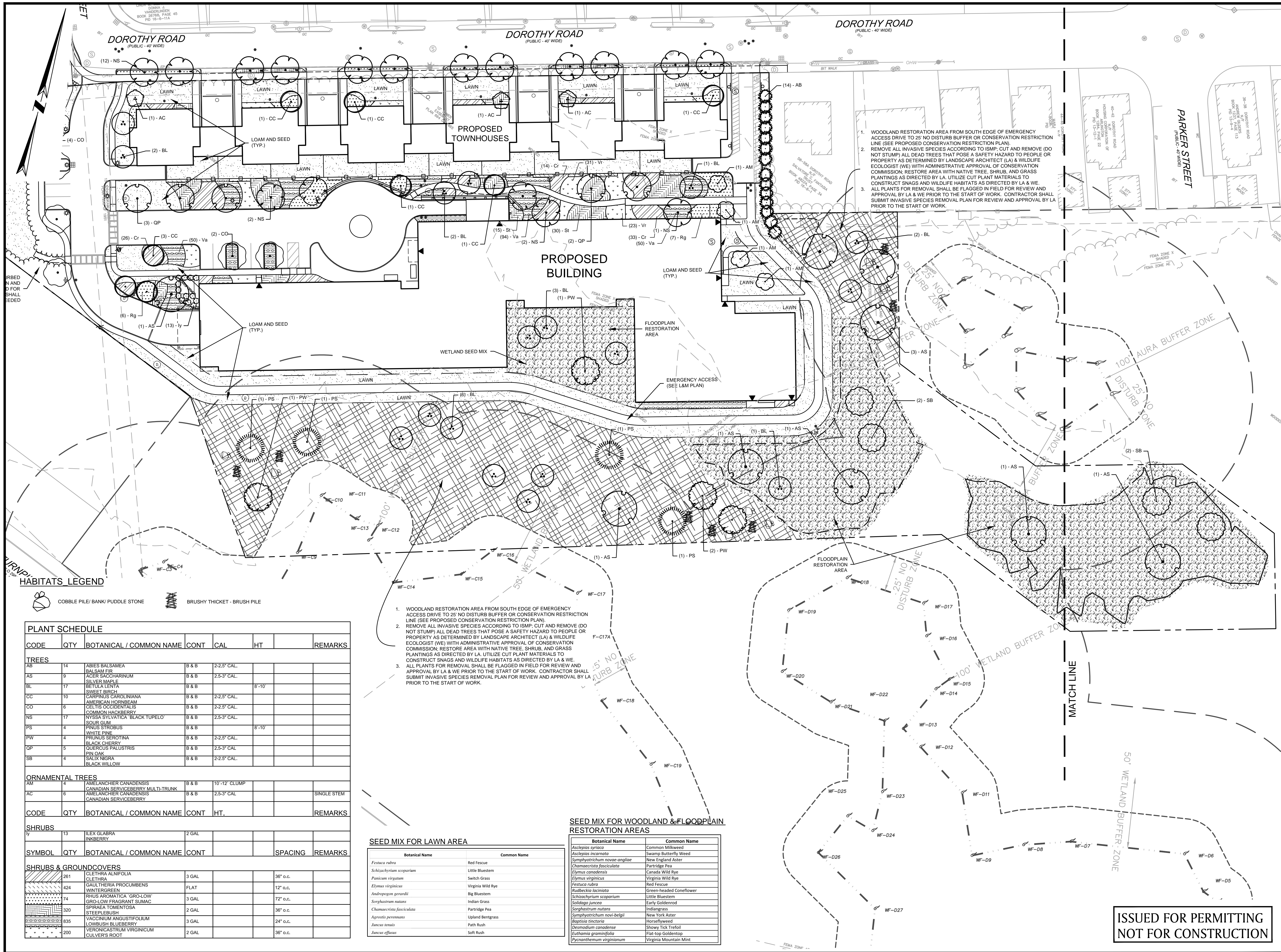
- WOODLAND RESTORATION AREA FROM SOUTH EDGE OF EMERGENCY ACCESS DRIVE TO 25' NO DISTURB BUFFER OR CONSERVATION RESTRICTION LINE (SEE PROPOSED CONSERVATION RESTRICTION PLAN)
- REMOVE ALL INVASIVE SPECIES ACCORDING TO ISMP; CUT AND REMOVE (DO NOT STUMP) ALL DEAD TREES THAT POSE A SAFETY HAZARD TO PEOPLE OR PROPERTY AS DETERMINED BY LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT (LA) & WILDLIFE ECOLOGIST (WE) WITH ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF CONSERVATION COMMISSION; RESTORE AREA WITH NATIVE TREE, SHRUB, AND GRASS PLANTINGS AS DIRECTED BY LA. UTILIZE CUT PLANT MATERIALS TO CONSTRUCT SNAGS AND WILDLIFE HABITATS AS DIRECTED BY LA & WE. ALL PLANTS FOR REMOVAL SHALL BE FLAGGED IN FIELD FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY LA & WE PRIOR TO THE START OF WORK. CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL PLAN FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY LA PRIOR TO THE START OF WORK.
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SEED MIX FOR LAWN AREA

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switch Grass
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	Virginia Wild Rye
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Bluestem
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian Grass
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Partridge Pea
<i>Agrostis perennans</i>	Upland Berggrass
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	Path Rush
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush

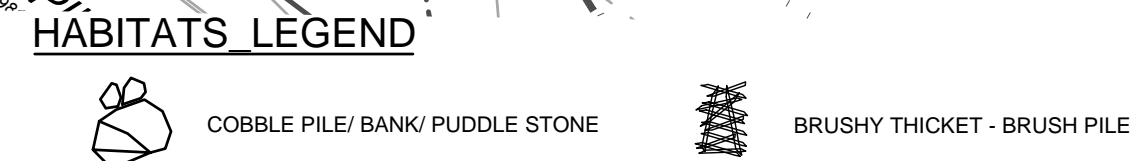
SEED MIX FOR WOODLAND & FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION AREAS

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Butterfly Weed
<i>Symphoricarpos novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Partridge Pea
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada Wild Rye
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	Virginia Wild Rye
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Green-headed Coneflower
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<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indiangrass
<i>Symphoricarpos novi-belgii</i>	New York Aster
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- WOODLAND RESTORATION AREA FROM SOUTH EDGE OF EMERGENCY ACCESS DRIVE TO 25' NO DISTURB BUFFER OR CONSERVATION RESTRICTION LINE (SEE PROPOSED CONSERVATION RESTRICTION PLAN).
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PLANTING PLAN

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

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PREPARED FOR:
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CAMBRIDGE, MA

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