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## **Section C Modification Request**

The petitioner requests approval to modify the above landscape and/or screening requirements in the following ways: (if necessary, attach additional page).

(5:603.- Conflicting land use buffers) and (5:604.- Refuse/recycling container

## D. Standards for Approval

Flexibility in the application of the landscape and screening regulations may be allowed if certain standards are met. The modifications must be consistent with the intent of Chapter 62; be included on a site plan and in a motion approved by the City Planning Commission or City Council; and be associated with specific site conditions as listed in Section

The specific site condition listed above is section 5:608 (2) (a, b & c (iv) In the case of planned projects or planned unit developments, a rearrangement of the landscaping elements will achieve the spirit and intent of this chapter.

## 1. What are the specific site conditions that necessitate this request and how do they warrant the modifications of Chapter 62 requirements? (See Section 5:608(2)(c)) List relevant subsection and explain how and to what extent the modifications are

1. The proposed site is very small, 4250 square feet, less than half the size of a standard 66' x 132' Old West Side lot. The required landscape buffer along the wide end of the site would reduce the area for vehicular circulation and building by over 17% creating a hardship for building design, parking and landscaping. By placing 80% of the parking spots under the building, the vehicular use area has been greatly reduced allowing for a still substantial landscape buffer.

2. Conflicting land use buffers are necessary if an existing residential use is adversely affected by commercial buildings, dissimilar zoning or vehicular uses. In this case even though the zoning is C1, the predominating proposed land use (79%) is essentially a small two family dwelling. The adjacent land use to be screened is also a two family dwelling. The only dissimilar use is a small 837 square foot office on the opposite side of the building and away from the adjacent residential structure.

## 2. How does the proposal meet the spirit and intent of Chapter 62? (See Section 5:600)

1. The appearance of off-street vehicular use areas is improved by the strategic placement of two Amelanchier trees which because of their branching habit partially screen the views into the open covered parking garage from the public sidewalks as pedestrians walk north on Detroit and Division Streets. This meets the intent of 5:600 (1) (a & e).

2. The solid waste bins are partially screened by the existing side retaining wall and the proposed building. The bins are then fully screened from the abutting public rights-of-way by Judd Viburnums. This meets the intent of 5:600 (1) (a & e) and 5:604 Refuse / recycling container screening

3. Along the rear wall Thuja Occidentalis Nigra (American Dark Green Arborvitae) were selected for their dense screening ability and height. The trees will be planted approximately six feet on center. These trees will be more suitable than a screen of deciduous trees spaced 15 feet on center since they will fill in becoming a visual barrier as well as reducing the potential for graffiti painting on the wall.

Conflicting Land Use Buffer						
74 feet of conflicting use buffer						
Required	Existing	Proposed				
15' average Landscape Buffer strip Ch 62, 5:603 (1)	Current - Asphalt paved lot	Provided 6' average landscape buffer				
One tree per 15' of buffer Ch 62, 5:603 (2)	No existing trees	(5) trees required - Provided (8) Thuja Nigra and (2) Amelanchier arborea 'Cumulus'				
4' high Continuous screening Ch 62, 5:603 (3)	41' Existing 4' wall	A proposed 33' of new 4' wall for a total of 74' wall.				

Ch 62, 5:602. - Vehicular use area landscaping and screening. Vehicular use areas is less than 1200 square feet and does not required any landscape screening. The current vehicle area is 1194 s.f.

Refuse/recycling container screening.				
Required	Existing	Proposed		
Ch 62, 5:604 6-foot	Current - No screening	4' high wall plus (9) viburmum Juddi		
high wall and live		along the public right of way and		
landscape material		building on the opposite side.		

CODE	QTY.	Genus species	COMMON NAME	SIZE
PROPOS	SED TRI	EES		
AA	2	Amelanchier arborea 'Cumulus'	'Cumulus' Serviceberry	2" ca
TO	11	Thuja Occidentalis Nigra	American Dark Green Arborvitae	6' bb
* UA	5	Ulmus americana 'Princeton'	American Elm Tree	2.5" ca
18		^	*	
AM JS	25	Aronia melanocarpa Juniperus sabina 'Broadmoor'	Black Chokeberry Broadmoor Juniper	30" b 5 gal
	5	Viburnum dentatum 'Autumn Jazz'	Arrowood Viburnum 'A.J.'	48" b
VD		117:1	Judd Viburnum	I 20" h
VD VJ	9	Viburnum juddi	Juda vibaritatii	30" b
VJ PROPOS	SED GR	OUNDCOVERS, PERENNIALS, & V	<u>INES</u>	
VJ				3.25

shall be the small street trees substituted along the Division St. parkway extension.

**Application for Modifications From Chapter 62 (Landscaping and Screening)** 



SΣ DETROIT Ann Arbor

submission

10.29.12

revisions

11.19.12 12.10.12 12.12.12

LANDSCAPING

sheet

SP-07

Landscaping Plan

scale: 1/8" = 1'-0" on 24" x 36" sht