Thurston County Community LID Workgroup

Proposed Changes to Landscaping – Thurston County Code
October 29, 2015

Conceptual Examples for Landscaping Discussion Only.

Current Standard

- Commercial uses have a minimum 5-foot buffer strip along public rights-of-way or adjacent residential districts or uses.
- Hypothetical 60,000-square-foot site (1.38 acres).
- Hypothetical 6,000-square-foot building shown.
- No landscaping required within parking areas.

Proposed Standard

“Standard Option”

- 6,000 square feet of landscaping shown.
- Landscaping may be clustered to preserve vegetation on site.
- 8-foot buffer. Wider buffer will allow for use as a stormwater facility.
- Where parking areas exceed 5,000 square feet or that add 10 or more spaces, 10% of site must be landscaped. This encourages use of interior landscaping for bioretention and other stormwater treatment and control.
“Retain & Connect Vegetation Option”

8-foot buffer. Wider buffer will allow for use as a stormwater facility.

Landscaping area is sufficient to support bioretention.

Required landscaping may be reduced by 20% if design emphasizes retention of native vegetation or connectivity with open space.

“Pervious Surface Option”

8-foot buffer. Wider buffer will allow for use as a stormwater facility.

Porous concrete surface shown.

Required landscaping can be reduced by 50% if parking area is surfaced with a minimum 5% pervious surfaces.