

City of Bowie

2614 Kenhill Drive
Bowie, Maryland 20715

MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: David J. Deutsch *DJD*
City Manager

Subject: Proposed Tree Planting on Old Chapel Road, Race Track Road and Mitchellville Road

Date: March 17, 2010

Attached please find proposed planting plans provided by Prince George's County for Old Chapel Road, Race Track Road and Mitchellville Road. This planting is to partially mitigate for the tree removal performed by BGE in these areas. More specifically, this planting will take place in the following areas:

- South side of Old Chapel Road from the first house east of Rt. 197 to east of Whitehall Drive
- West side of Race Track Road from Hilltop Plaza to north of Ovalstone Lane (13 trees are also proposed for the east side of Race Track Road)
- North side of Mitchellville Road from east of Peach Walker Drive to east of Arbor Hill Lane.

The breakdown of trees in these proposals to be provided by BGE and those to be supplemented by Prince George's County is as follows:

	<u>BGE</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Total</u>
Old Chapel Road	55	12	67
Race Track Road	63	31	94
Mitchellville Road	34	10	44
Total	152	53	205

The supplemental trees being provided by Prince George's County are greatly appreciated since they are under no obligation to provide this planting. The attached

drawings that the County has provided are also appreciated, but a little misleading in terms of the extent of coverage this tree planting will provide in the areas where this planting will occur. These plantings will not provide extensive screening to replace the trees that have been removed in these areas. The trees being replanted are smaller trees and while they will certainly provide an enhancement to these areas, they will not be planted at the same density as the trees that were planted on Rt. 197 near the Grady's Walk community. In Grady's Walk, a total of 139 trees, primarily Nellie Stevens Hollies, were planted in an area much smaller than any of the areas proposed above.

The planting by BGE at Grady's Walk was done under the Right Tree Right Place Program that is primarily implemented in landscaped areas. Because the areas along Old Chapel Road, Race Track Road and Mitchellville Road have not been maintained as landscaped areas in the past, a modified tree planting proposal was offered as a concession by BGE.

The planting proposed on the attached plans prepared by Prince George's County do not show additional planting in the area of Mitchellville Road that was originally cut in the fall of 2008. Replanting is only proposed for the area on Mitchellville Road that was cut recently.

When BGE removed trees along Mitchellville Road south of Alderwood Lane in late 2008, Prince George's County did plant additional trees in this area last spring as follows:

- 6 Nellie Stevens Holly
- 6 Emerald Sentinel Eastern Red Cedar
- 5 Forest Pansy Redbud

The Parks and Grounds Superintendent and the Community Forester are currently reviewing these plans and will be working with BGE and Prince George's County to incorporate City desired modifications. Primarily these modifications would be to replace flowering trees with evergreen trees that would provide a more substantial buffer. City staff will meet with Prince George's County concerning the actual plant locations in the field once these plans are finalized.

At the December 7, 2009 City Council meeting, staff provided City Council with a proposal to provide increased maintenance using City staff along these County right-of-ways to supplement this tree planting effort. That maintenance would involve the City supplementing County maintenance by providing heavy duty, bush hog type mowing on an as needed basis to keep these areas under better control and to allow the newly planted trees the opportunity to grow without being overwhelmed by surrounding natural growth.

It needs to be emphasized that the final outcome of this tree planting effort and the enhanced maintenance by the City in these areas will not result in a manicured, landscaped maintenance along these road ways. Also, the planting that will take place will not provide an extensive buffer between the road and the properties that abut the

road in these areas. In many cases, the tree cutting and trimming associated with the Bowie Electrical Reliability Action Plan along these right-of ways exposed fences in yards abutting these right-of-ways that were in some need of repair. This tree planting and additional maintenance by the City will not hide these areas. We do anticipate that these plantings and additional maintenance will improve the look of these areas. However, the final result will not be a landscaped, manicured look that is provided in some other areas of the City.

Finally, City staff plans to meet with Ms. Stillson the week of March 22nd to discuss the plans proposed for Race Track Road and to further address her concerns regarding the removal of trees on Race Track Road.

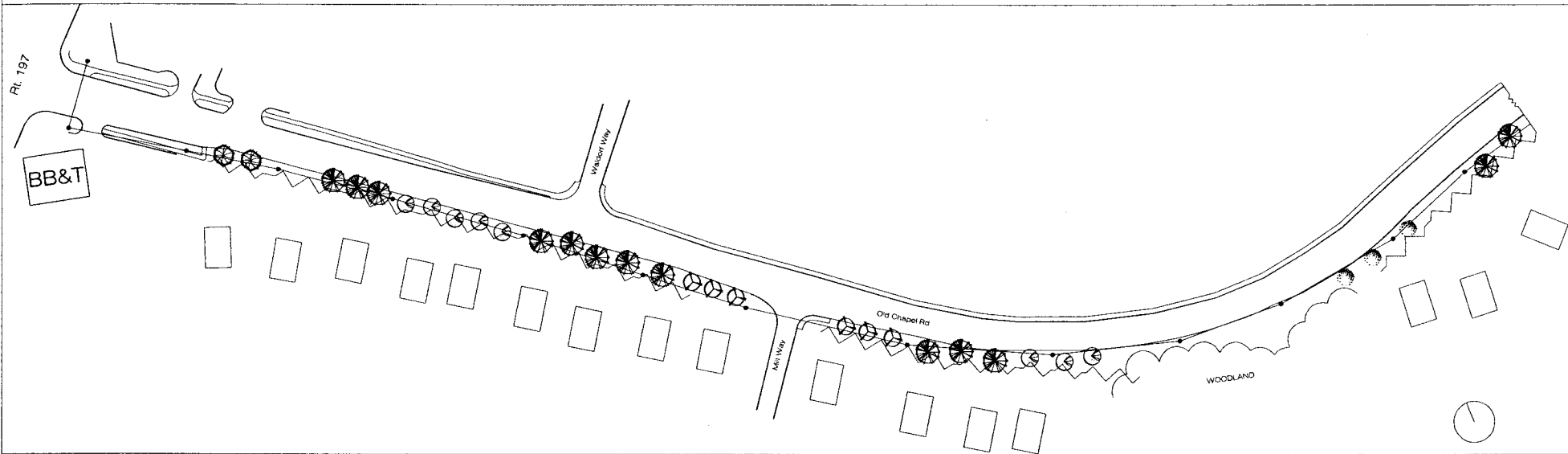
Unless Council raises any objections, after meeting with Ms. Stillson, and after staff issues have been resolved, staff will sign off on this plan and move forward with this planting this spring.

DJD/JLF/adf

Attachments

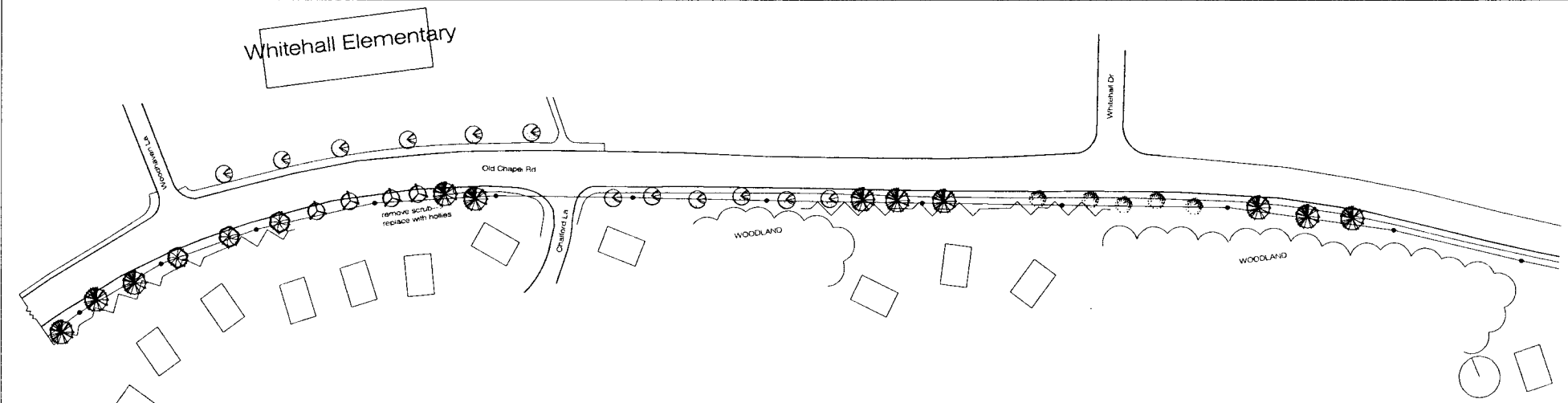
A.

B.











B.

C.



LEGEND:

-  American Holly
-  Crape Myrtle
-  Redbud
-  Serviceberry
-  Kousa Dogwood
-  Fence
-  Utility Pole
-  House

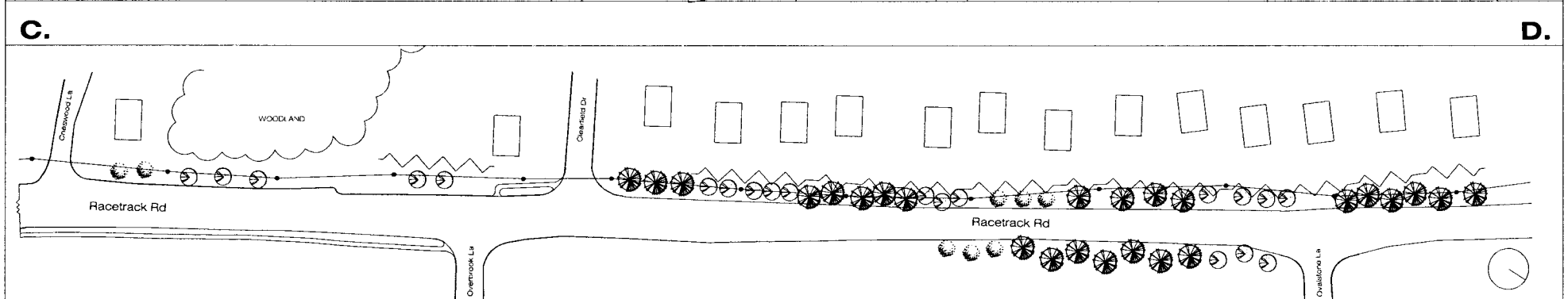
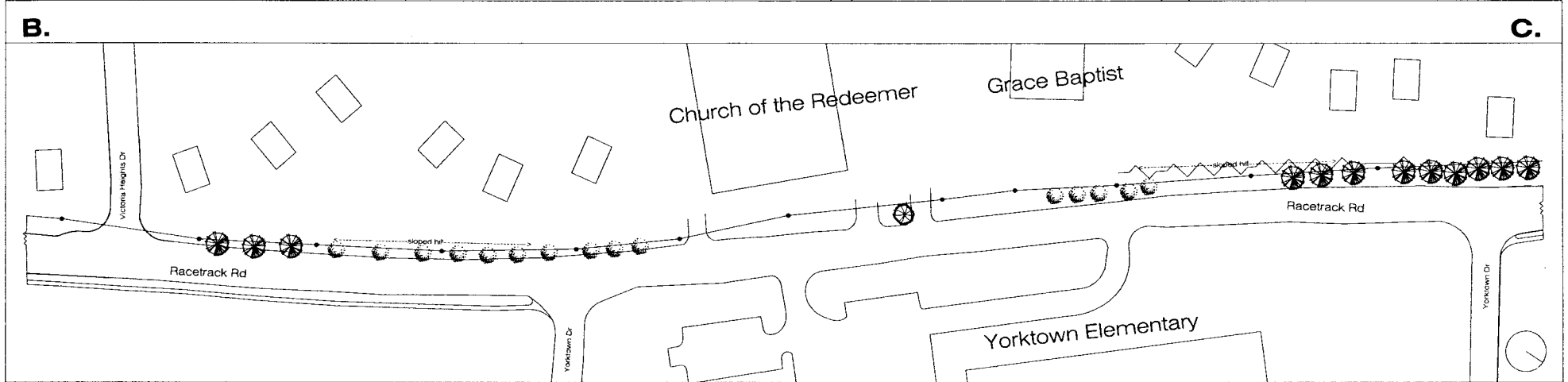
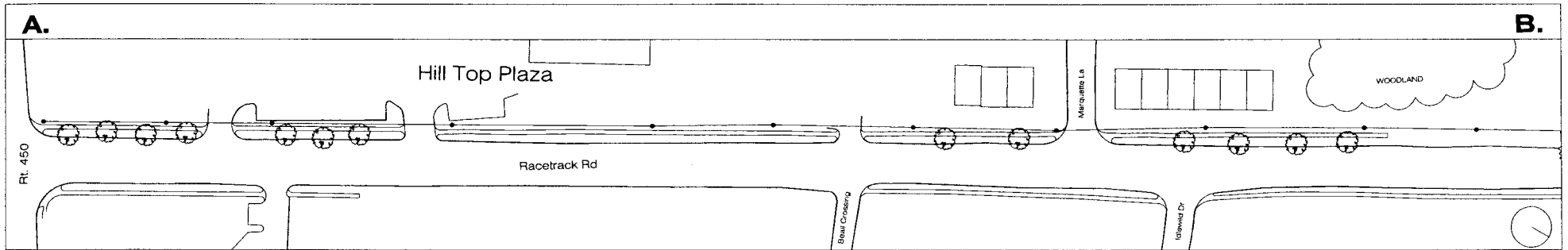
PLANT LIST:

# of Trees	Botanical Name	Common Name
24	Ilex opaca	American Holly
5	Lagerstroemia indica	Crape Myrtle
20	Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud
8	Amelanchier canadensis	Serviceberry
10	Cornus kousa	Kousa Dogwood

SCALE: 1" = 40'

Streetscape Design
 Old Chapel Road
 Spring 2010





LEGEND:

-  American Holly
-  Cherry
-  Crape Myrtle
-  Redbud
-  Serviceberry
-  Fence
-  Utility Pole
-  House

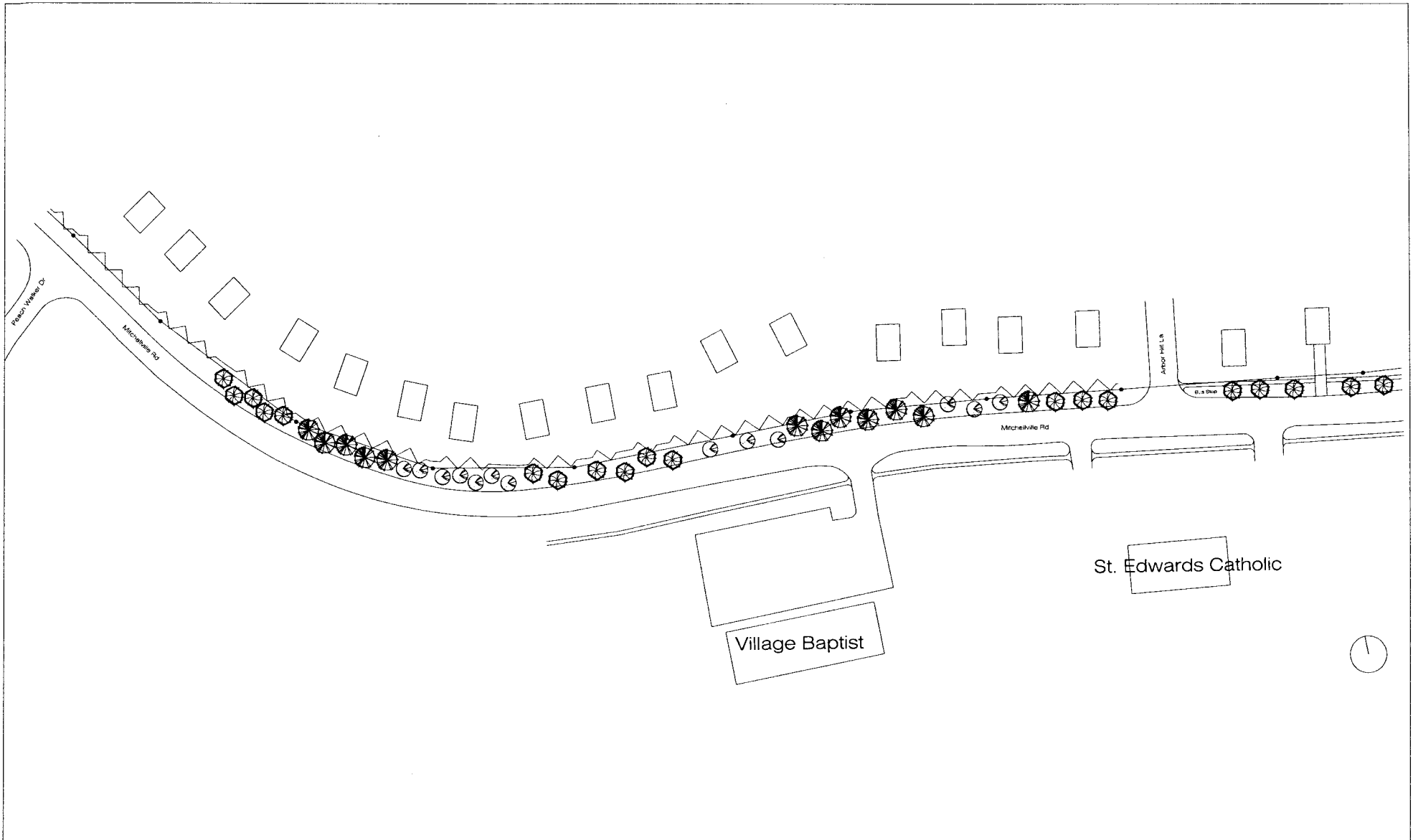
PLANT LIST:

# of Trees	Botanical Name	Common Name
37	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American Holly
13	<i>Prunus x 'Okame'</i>	Okame Cherry
1	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crape Myrtle
20	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud
23	<i>Ameianchier canadensis</i>	Serviceberry

SCALE: 1" = 40'

Streetscape Design
Racetrack Road
Spring 2010





LEGEND:

- 
American Holly
- 
Crape Myrtle
- 
Redbud
- 
Fence
- 
Utility Pole
- 
House

PLANT LIST:

# of Trees	Botanical Name	Common Name
12	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American Holly
19	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crape Myrtle
13	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Eastern Redbud

SCALE: 1" = 40'

Streetscape Design
 Mitchellville Road
 Spring 2010

