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**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:04 AM

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**Subject:** CPP--another note

I'd like to chime in:

Here is the charge of the CPP:

*The Purpose of the Committee on Public Planting is to promote and improve the quality and diversity of public planting throughout all areas of Cambridge. Specific functions of the committee, in keeping with this purpose, consists of the following:*

- 1. To advise the City Council, City Manager, Public Works Commissioner, and other appropriate department heads of issues concerning public planting including the effective maintenance of public plantings already in place;*
- 2. To serve as a resource within the City for programs and ideas consistent with the purposes of the committee;*
- 3. To review planting plans of all proposals for new public work in the City, primarily to appraise the appropriateness of plants, their placement, and the type of maintenance needed and provided;*
- 4. To support the role of the City Arborist or Tree Warden with the City.;*
- 5. To encourage interest in public planting in all neighborhoods of the City; and*
- 6. To conduct such other activities as are considered appropriate for achieving the basic purpose of the committee.*

In my several years on the committee, I have observed how, in various instances, our suggestions and recommendations are ignored by developers. For example, when we look at plans, we often see a plant list that contains trees unsuitable for harsh urban conditions and/or ornamental trees that will never provide the kind of shade canopy the CPP attempting to promote. We are not always as successful as we'd like when we discuss these matters with developers and designers.

As the Task Force examines the policies and practices with respect to planting public trees in Cambridge, I would ask that it consider how the CPP's recommendations might carry more clout going forward. How might the CPP's charge be revised (or the committee reconfigured) to better carry out its mission and to better deliver on the city's commitment to the urban canopy?

Best,

Kathleen Kelly  
47 Lawn St.