Jacob, Melinda

Subject: FW: handouts to DRC on July 18, 2024
Attachments: Fire Prone Plants & Characteristics.docx

From: kelly hammargren <kellyhammargren@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Burns, Anne M <ABurns@berkeleyca.gov>
Subject: handouts to DRC on July 18, 2024

Hi Anne,

The link to the plants to use is posted on the Bringing Back the Natives website. This is easier for posting and sharing than the google doc sharing. If this doesn't work for you, please let me know.

here is the link for the fire-resistant plants
https://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Fire-Resistant-Plants-for-Bayside-Areas-in-Alameda-and-Contra-Costa-Counties-California-Sheet1.pdf

here is the link to the Fire Hazardous and Fire Resistant Plants page
https://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/fire-hazardous-plants-fire-resistant-native-plants

Attached is the list of Fire Prone plants using the Fire Safe Marin list.

kelly hammargren

Fire Prone Plants and Fire Prone Plant Characteristics

Fire Prone Plants

Some plants are particularly susceptible to fire: they may ignite readily and burn intensely, and should be removed or aggressively maintained if present near a home, road, or driveway. You may be required to remove some or all of these species depending on local fire codes if present within 100 feet of structures.

Fire Prone Plant Characteristics

- Often blade-leaf or needle evergreens, or grasses
- Often have stiff, woody, small or fine, lacey leaves
- Leaves and wood often contain volatile waxes, fats, terpenes or oils (crushed leaves will have strong odors).
- Sap is usually gummy, resinous, and may have strong odor.
- Usually contain plentiful fine, twiggy, dry, or dead materials.
- May have pubescent (hair covered) leaves.
- May have loose or papery bark.
- Usually flame (not smolder) when ignited with a match.

Fire-Prone Plants – Do not Use

Abies spp. – Firs
Acacia spp. - Acacia species
Adenostoma fasciculatum – Chamise, Greasewood
Arctostaphylos spp. – Manzanita (soe twiggy)
Artemisia californica - Coastal Sagebrush
Baccharis spp. - Coyote Brush
Bamboo – Bamboo (all tribes)
Cedrus spp. - Cedars
Chamaecyparis spp. – False Cypress
Chrysolepis chrysophylla – Chinquapin, giant
Cortaderia jubata - Jubata Grass
Cortaderia selloana - Pampas Grass
Cupressus spp. - Cypress
Cytisus scoparious – Scotch Broom
Erigonum fasciculatum – California Buckwheat
Eucalyptus spp. - Eucalyptus
Genista monspessulana – French Broom
Juniperus spp. – Junipers
Lariz spp. – Larch
Notholithocarpus densiflorus – Tan Oak, Tanbark Oak
Palms – Palm (with dry frondsPennisetum spp. – Fountain Grass
Picea spp. – Spruces
Pickeringia montana – Chaparral Pea
Pinus spp – Pines
Pseudotsuga menziesii – Douglas-Fir

Fire Prone Plants and Fire Prone Plant Characteristics

Quercus spp – Scrub Oak (brushy oaks)
Rosmarinus officinalis – Rosemary
Salvia mellifera – Black Sage
Spartium junceum – Spanish Broom
Taxus spp. - Yew
Thuja spp. - Arborvitae
Tsuga spp. – Hemlock
Umbellularia californica – California Bay
Vaccinium ovatum – Evergreen Huckleberry

Source: Fire Safe Marin https://firesafemarin.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/FIRESafe-MARIN_plant-list_2019.pdf

From:	Peter Montgomery
To:	Burns, Anne M
Cc:	Peter Montgomery; andrew@sfyimby.com; ptouschner@dlrgroup.com
Subject:	2128 Oxford Street : Design Review input : Montgomery
Date:	Wednesday, July 17, 2024 3:04:34 PM

Hello Anne Burns and City of Berkeley Design Review Committee,

RE: 2128 Oxford Street : Design Review input

Please accept the following inputs and feedback into the record for 2128 Oxford Street in Berkeley.

As a lifelong Berkeley resident, and Berkeley home owner, I am wholeheartedly 100% in approval and agreement with the latest designs that are currently published for the 2128 Oxford project. The 26 story and 285 foot height seem completely appropriate on that lot and location. The access to nearby transportation and to the U.C. Berkeley Campus makes this an ideal place for such a structure with such density and function.

The current design is handsome and respectful. The design has a bit too many separate masses, and particularly the gray west elevation seems unnecessarily different than the orange portion. If any further changes were to be made, it should be in unifying the different elevations and making the whole building read more like the proposed orange-red corner of Oxford and Center Street. Ideally, the building could be simplified, streamline, and made more coherent. Think Mies Van Der Rohe's wonderful apartments in Chicago, or in Michigan. The incessant fracturing and breaking up of facades and forms in Berkeley multi-unit buildings over the past 20-years has been detrimental, visually, and conceptually. We have too many buildings in Berkeley that have followed a misguided notion that "breaking things up" will make them fit in better. Instead of trying to masquerade as a bunch of separate forms, and kowtow to a notion of fitting in with neighbors, it is much better for a building to be itself, to be clear, to be honest, to be formally logical.

Again, I love the overall massing, size, and the renderings from DLR Group. I strongly vote for approval of the latest design. Additionally, I very much hope that the Design Review Committee avoids a bunch of feedback for more gewgaws and setbacks and historicist mumbo jumbo. Let the design professionals do their work. Let clarity reign.

Looking forward to having such a grand and tall and high-density structure on Center Street.

Thank you, -Peter
CC: SFYimby; DLR

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